

# college/conference news

## Position Filled

We are pleased to announce that Pastor Steven Taylor has been employed as a part-time technology coordinator for Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference. Steve is currently serving as pastor of the New Hope Community Church in Lafayette, Indiana and he will continue in that position. Steve is the founder of Today's Good News Television Ministry which has been producing programs for cablecast in communities around North America.

Steve is a 1978 graduate of Oregon Bible College. He has served 19 years in pastoral ministry at Columbia Station, Ohio; Blanchard, Michigan; and his current pastorate in Lafayette.

Steve is available to visit your church to film special events and/or to discuss ways your church can minister through technology. He can be contacted at 765-448-2723.

## Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors met in October to review the work of the College/Conference and to take action on recommendations adopted at last summer's conference.

Two task forces were appointed in accordance with action by the delegates at the summer General Conference. A committee has been appointed to study the organizational structure of the college/conference consisting of Larry Johnson, Chairman; Norman Chandler, Donna Deanne, Tim Jones, and Jim Ring. They met on the campus of the college/conference on November 20.

A task force on public relations was appointed consisting of Charles Bottolfs, Chairman; Dale Brown, Frank Johnson, Joyce Knapp, and David Scheiding. This committee will be meeting after the first of the year.

The Board of Directors will be meeting on campus January 7 - 9 for their annual long-range planning meeting. They welcome input from the membership. Suggestions or matters to be discussed by the Board should be sent to the president to be added to the agenda.



## Campus Chaplain

Each semester, in cooperation with the Ministerial Association, a pastor spends a week

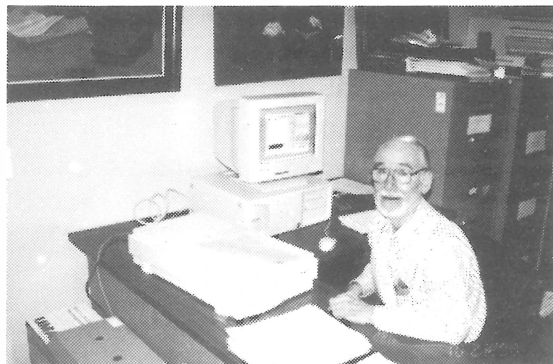
on campus. The Campus Chaplain speaks in chapel, leads devotions, and spends time with students.

We were privileged to have Pastor Ray Hall of the Garden Park Church in Kentwood, Michigan on campus for a week in November. He was a great blessing to students and staff.

## Archives Preservation Project

Work began on preserving *The Restitution Herald* on the computer in October. Malcolm McLeod, long-time member of the Church of God, spent two weeks on campus scanning several volumes of *The Restitution Herald*. Malcolm is from San Luis Obispo, California. We are thankful for the work that Malcolm did. We are also thankful for all those who have contributed to the purchase of a new computer and scanner to accomplish this work. Gifts have been given in memory of Sybil McLeod, Mildred Stantial, and Pastor J. Arlen Marsh.

Mike Moyer of the Timberland Church in South Bend, Indiana spent three weeks on campus in November helping with this project. Also, students at ABC have been involved in the project.



## Annual Booster Campaign

Once each year Atlanta Bible College sponsors a special booster campaign to encourage prayer and financial support for the work of Atlanta Bible College. The education of those who attend the college is subsidized through general contributions of the membership. Support of the college is an investment in future ministry. All members are invited to be ABC boosters.

(continued on page 4)

# progress journal

atlanta bible college/church of God general conference

november - december - volume 41 - number 1

# God shows no favoritism

dr. william d. lawrence

I was told a story about a retarded boy who was at a gathering where the others were giving testimony about how and why they believed in salvation through Jesus. No one expected this retarded boy to participate, but when his turn came he quietly sang "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." That evidently was his level of comprehension.

While in India recently at a missionary hospital and with our two churches, I suddenly realized what I'd missed before, even after Mardy and I had been to India ten times and to Africa four times. **GOD SHOWS NO FAVORITISM!** Romans 2:11 says "For God does not show favoritism." In Ephesians 6:9c, Paul says, "there is no favoritism with Him." And in Acts 10:34b-35 we read, "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism, but accepts men from every nation who fear Him and do what is right." We in the Church of God need to come to a better understanding of this important fact: that God does not show favoritism, but loves all who are in search of truth.

While we were in India, we worked with those who had absolutely no education. In fact, they could not sign their names and I'd guess could not even make an X. Many were afraid and superstitious and pagan. At the hospital some confessed a belief in God after the simple Gospel message was presented. They said they wanted to be followers of Jesus. They wanted to be Christians because they saw Christianity and love in the lives of the care givers. They felt empty and afraid and with no hope like the Hindu man we saw worshipping a black concrete rat. Yes, a rat. Often after leaving the

hospital these people will never have a chance to hear more from the Bible. Even though the Indian pastors try their best to follow up on all those who have made a confession of Jesus, they are simply physically unable to cover every remote village. These people will go back to a distant village where it is possible that no one can read, let alone have a Bible. At that stage all they know is that the Christian God is one of who they can say, "God is for me!" Remember, people are often at different stages in their Christian walk. Their understanding may also be different. In John's Gospel we learn that once a person has become a child of God, God puts His Holy Spirit in him. The Holy Spirit will then help, guide and teach that person in God's ways (John 14:26). Remember, God does not play favorites.

We in the Church of God need to deal with this. I'm not advocating universalism, but I am questioning the extreme exclusiveness of some of our people. We even had one person suggest that there were twenty-three different scriptural facts which had to be believed in order to be baptized. How can we accept twenty-three or thirteen or

whatever when Romans 10:13 says, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"? It sounds like the Gospel may be more simplistic than I have made it in the past. Those at the hospital had called on the name of the Lord. "Where do we draw the line?" some will ask. The answer is: "God draws the line!" The thief on the cross, Luke 23:43, seems to have achieved salvation in a brief encounter with Jesus. In Acts 16:32-33 we find these words regarding the jailer and his family: Paul "spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all



the others in the house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and his family were baptized.” Acts 10:43b: “Everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” Romans 10:9: “If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

James 2:5: “Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the Kingdom He promised those who love Him?” Many reading this may think of themselves as poor. I’d ask: “In relation to what standard?” Of course God looks at all the world, all of humanity, all of the 6 billion people. In relation to the great majority of the world’s people all of us in the United States are rich. Since we believe the Scriptures are God-breathed or God-inspired we need to look at James 2:5. Since it says that “God has chosen those who are poor to inherit the Kingdom,” we’d better believe that and know that maybe most in the Kingdom will be the poor of the world and not the rich Americans. Again I’ll say it is time to expand our mental horizons.

Those who will be saved, according to Scripture, will come from all over the world. Look at the truth of Revelation 5:9. It says in part, “With Your blood You purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.” I’d like to imagine that we of the Church of God someday will have converts from every tribe, language, people, and nation, but our history of the last 150 years does not lead me to think this is really likely. We in the Church of God have not done too good a job of spreading the truths we’ve been given. Therefore it is conceivable that God could look elsewhere for people who will love Him, trust Him and walk with Him by faith to accomplish His mission of evangelizing the world.

With the above Scriptures in mind, especially Revelation 5:9, I believe we need to expand our views and rein in our prejudices and realize that we may not have the exclusive scriptural interpretation on who will be saved. What I mean is that even though I firmly believe that what the Church of God believes and teaches is biblically correct, I no longer feel that only these people who believe exactly like the Church of God will be saved. Obviously it is impossible for me to state where the line is drawn and likewise I believe it is impossible for others to draw this line which is only known to God. The truth is, there are people all over the world who are being reached for Jesus Christ who may not understand EVERYTHING exactly the way we do; but God is the one who will judge their hearts in light of their biblical understanding and their relationship with Him.

The truth is important and I believe the Bible, as we know it, is the infallible Word of God. We who have the Scriptures and the education to read the truth need to pursue that truth as has been the history of the Church of God. There is, however a balance each individual must determine between their own commitment to perusal of truth and reaching the lost for Jesus through personal contact. I believe the typical Church of God member knows enough now that Jesus may say, “Now get with sharing your knowledge — my Gospel!”

The sooner we open our minds and hearts to this great fact the better off we will be. The Bible does not support and promote the teachings of the Church of God; the Church of God supports and promotes the teaching of the Bible. Let’s open our minds and hearts to the people of the world, battle against ignorance and sin, and bring the Gospel to all people. ☪

## positions to be filled

As a result of action by the delegates at the 1998 summer General Conference, there are two positions to be filled at the College/Conference in the fall of 1999:

### Youth/Recruitment Coordinator

This position is being created to: give assistance to Church of God congregations and state/district conferences in providing quality youth ministry. It will also help equip lay and professional youth workers. It will promote Atlanta Bible College throughout the Church of God and recruit students to take ABC courses.

We recognize the vital importance of reaching young people with the message of truth and salvation. Most decisions for Christ are made in the teen years. Those decisions are based upon Christian education efforts in the local church. We want to do everything possible to help strengthen local youth ministry. We also believe that strong youth ministry will provide the environment where young people will hear the Lord of the harvest calling them into the fields that are ready for harvest.

### Spiritual Life/Evangelism Coordinator

This position is being created to: give assistance to Church of God congregations and state/district conferences in development of prayer and spiritual awakening; help equip lay and professional workers in the area of outreach and evangelism; foster a church-planting climate throughout the Church of God; provide encouragement and consultation to church-planting pastors.

The Church of God continues to put focus upon obedience to the great commission. This obedience is built upon a strong spiritual foundation in which people love God and Jesus and desire to be obedient to them. Our desire as a conference and college is to have a strong spiritual foundation upon which we can reach out to those who are lost.

### Other Positions

Occasionally there are positions at the College/Conference that need to be filled due to retirement or resignation. We are glad to receive informal communication from those who may be interested in serving on our staff at some point in the future. A file of potential future personnel is maintained in the office of the president. When vacancies occur on our staff, it is helpful to know of those who might be interested in serving the Lord in this way.

Please send resumes or expressions of interest in positions to the president at: P.O. Box 100,000, Morrow, Georgia 30260.

*(continued from page 1)*

### Church Builders Appeal #81

The Board of Directors has designated the Cornerstone Bible Church of God, McDonough, Georgia as the recipient of Church Builders Appeal #81. The church started in the fall of 1994. It met in rented facilities until the spring of this year. A 10-acre site was purchased and paid for before construction began on the building. The building contains 8,000 sq. ft. The congregation is made up of approximately 130 people with an attendance on Sunday mornings of nearly 90.

The cost of the building and furnishings was \$275,000. The membership of the Church of God is invited to participate in this appeal to assist the Cornerstone Bible Church.

### College Invitational

Prospective students and sponsors are invited to come to the campus of Atlanta Bible College for the weekend of March 4-6. We appreciate churches that encourage and financially underwrite the cost of students to visit the college. This weekend provides an opportunity for students to attend classes and become familiar with our program.

### Work in Lima, Peru

Pictured below is the church building being rented by the congregation in Lima, Peru. The Spanish sign on the building says, "Church of God of the Faith of Abraham." Several individuals, conferences, churches, and mission groups have been providing support for the rent of this facility.

*(continued on page 7)*



# REPORT OF BAPTISMS:

2,000 by the Year 2000

April 1, 1998 - October 31, 1998*	57
April 1, 1997 - March 31, 1998*	141
April 1, 1996 - March 31, 1997	158
April 1, 1995 - March 31, 1996	164
April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995	162
April 1, 1993 - March 31, 1994	142
April 1, 1992 - March 31, 1993	164
April 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992	170
June 1, 1990 - March 31, 1991	168
January 1 - May 31, 1990	55

Jan. 1, 2000

Total  
1,381

\* More complete figures are being collected from non-reporting churches.

## Calendar of Events

<b>1999 March 4-6</b>	Collegiate Invitational Weekend
<b>April 11-16</b>	Christian Workers' Seminar, Holiday Inn, Pigeon Forge, TN
<b>April 26-30</b>	Ministers' Conference, ABC campus
<b>April 30-May 2</b>	Eighth Annual Theological Conference, ABC campus
<b>June 9-17</b>	ABC Holy Land Trip
<b>July 12-15</b>	79th Annual Summer Conference, Henry VIII Hotel, St. Louis, MO
<b>July 25-30</b>	RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN
<b>October 8, 9</b>	Midwest Women's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
<b>November 5, 6</b>	Midwest Men's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN

# prayer and praise december 1998

- 1 Pray for Seth Ross as he pastors the North Hills, OH church.
- 2 Pray for Francis and Iris Burnett and the Oaklawn Church of God at Koszta, Iowa.
- 3 Praise God for the dedicated service of College and Conference staff.
- 4 Pray for Pastor Dale and Connie Ramsey and the Cool Spring Church in VA.
- 5 Pray for Jason and Marcee Turner and the congregation at Beloit, Wisconsin.
- 6 Pray for contacts around the world produced by literature.
- 7 Praise God for your pastor as he shares God's Word today.
- 8 Pray for David and Anne Riley and the Cornerstone Bible Church of God, McDonough, GA.
- 9 Pray for Pastor Jon Cheatwood as he assists at Farmington, MO.
- 10 Pray for Pastor John Bolton and the work in Odessa, NY.
- 11 Praise God for the ministries of your local church.
- 12 Pray that God would lead you in the way of righteousness.
- 13 Pray for those who are leading the work in the Philippine Islands.
- 14 Praise God for the changing seasons and the beauty of creation.
- 15 Pray for Dick and Carol Eldred and the New Beginnings Ministry in Michigan.
- 16 Praise God for His word.
- 17 Pray for Pastor Tom and Sheila Schmitt and the Ripley Church.
- 18 Pray for Steve and Pam Grant and their work in the Middle East.
- 19 Pray for the Focus on the Kingdom radio broadcasts that are presenting God's truth.
- 20 Pray for Pastor Lee and Dale McMinn and the members in Columbia, South Carolina.
- 21 Pray for an individual you know who has not accepted Christ.
- 22 Pray for Tracy Savage as she works in Russia.
- 23 Pray for ABC instructor Joe Martin.
- 24 Pray for encouragement for those who are separated from family and friends at this Christmas season.
- 25 Praise God for the gift of His Son, Jesus.
- 26 Pray for recruitment efforts at Atlanta Bible College.
- 27 Pray for Pastor Stan and Hilda Lawrence and the North Salem, Indiana Church.
- 28 Pray for the work of native workers in Malawi.
- 29 Pray for Jeff and Terri Moore and their work in Minnesota.
- 30 Pray for revival throughout the Church of God in the coming year.
- 31 Praise God for the way He has blessed you in 1998.

# prayer and praise

## january 1999

# Christian Worker's Seminar

## 1999

*April 11-16, 1998*

Holiday Inn — Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

Springtime in the Smokies.

Insightful classes, warm fellowship, inspiring sessions.

- 1 Pray that Jesus will return to the earth soon.
- 2 **Pray for ABC students as they return from their Christmas break.**
- 3 Pray that our membership will be open to God's work in our churches.
- 4 **Pray for the work in Peru.**
- 5 Pray for ABC students as they begin their winter semester today.
- 6 **Praise God that we can be a part of the family of God.**
- 7 Pray for anyone in your church who has a health need.
- 8 **Pray for Pastor Warren and Irene Sorenson and the Simi Valley, CA Church.**
- 9 Praise God for a recent answer to a prayer.
- 10 **Pray for the outreach ministries of your church.**
- 11 Pray for Kent Ross as he teaches at Atlanta Bible College.
- 12 **Praise God for those who give generously of their time to further the Lord's work.**
- 13 Pray for Gary and Glenda Turner and the New Life Bible Church of Winnebago, IL.
- 14 **Pray for the Today's Good News Television Ministry under the direction of Steve Taylor.**
- 15 Praise God for financial and prayer supporters of the College/Conference.
- 16 **Praise God for the freedom to worship God.**
- 17 Pray for someone you know who needs to accept Jesus as Savior.
- 18 **Pray for an opportunity to share Christ with someone this week.**
- 19 Pray for Pastor Dan and Amy Kennedy in their work at Jubilee Christian Fellowship Church of God, Sharpsburg, GA.
- 20 **Pray for the congregation in Nashville, Tennessee.**
- 21 Pray for your pastor and family.
- 22 **Pray for teachers in your local church.**
- 23 Praise God for those who give of their time and talents in serving on Conference advisory committees.
- 24 **Pray for your nation's leaders.**
- 25 Pray for Pastor Chris and Jennifer Seiders and their ministry at Blanchard, MI.
- 26 **Pray for Gary Burnham as he serves as Controller of the College/Conference.**
- 27 Pray for opportunities to start new churches.
- 28 **Pray for Pastor Larry and Karen Mayberry and the Pennellwood Church.**
- 29 Praise God for the direction He provides for your life.
- 30 **Pray for retired Pastor E. Richard and Jeanne Smith.**
- 31 Pray for "shut-in" members who cannot meet regularly with other believers.

---

## pastors needed

The Restitution Church of God in Eldorado, Illinois is in need of a pastor. We are a congregation which feels a burden for the lost and which has a renewed desire to grow and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout our community. We are looking for an individual who can lead and guide us in our mission to reach those who need to hear the message of salvation. We are prepared to offer an above average salary, health insurance, and other benefits. If you feel that you might be interested in serving as our pastor, please contact Carlis Medley at 812-838-6437 or Jack Wiggins at 618-273-3676.

The Fox Valley Church is in need of a pastor. We are located in Naperville, IL west of Chicago, in the middle of a rapidly growing area. We have a strong desire to serve God in ways that would glorify Him and further the work of His kingdom. If you would like to know more about this opportunity please contact Elder Gary Smith 630-739-0216.

New Life Bible Church of Winnebago, Illinois is looking for a parttime associate pastor. Responsibilities will include working with all age youth in the church and several single, post high young adults. The person that fills this position will be groomed to fill the church planting pastor's role in the 5th church to be planted in the greater Rockford metropolitan area in the fall of 1999. We are also looking for Church of God families who would be interested in relocating to this area for the sake of working with new churches. Musical talents and teaching skills are greatly needed as we continue to grow. For more information contact Pastor Gary Turner at (815) 335-2941 or e-mail him at grtwinn@aol.com.

(continued from page 4)

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Illinois Conference

Members from around the state of Illinois gathered in Oregon on the weekend of October 16 – 18 to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the conference. The theme was “Proclaiming the Kingdom for a Century.”

Pictured is Pastor Francis Burnett, a native of Illinois, who spoke at the conference on “Our Heritage.”



### Annual Directory

Each fall, a directory of churches is published by the Church of God General Conference. Copies of the directory are available in each church. Additional copies are available from the General Conference. Additions or corrections should be sent to: Directory, P.O. Box 100,000, Morrow, Georgia 30260.

### Summer Ministries Wants You!

Volunteer workers are needed for this year's Summer Ministries Program. We need willing workers who would like to spend time working with children and youth this summer. If you are over 14, like to travel, and would like to participate in this exciting ministry opportunity, please contact Merry Peterson:

By letter: P.O. Box 100,000  
Morrow, GA 30260

By phone: 800-347-4261

### Group Meeting in Pueblo, Colorado

In the summer of 1997, we were contacted by James Davis in Pueblo, Colorado who had purchased a *Systematic Theology* by Dr. Alva Huffer nearly twenty years ago. He discovered our address through the college/conference website and continued in correspondence with us for more than a year. Literature was made available to him and his acquaintances. These people understand the Scriptures as we do and have been pleased to know that there are so many others who have similar beliefs. In September, David and Lynne Krogh met with three families and Jim and Donna Dimmick from Colorado Springs. We encouraged them to have regular Bible studies. On October 25, they began regular Sunday Bible study services. They are listening to Focus on the Kingdom tapes produced by Anthony Buzzard, and the Timberland Church in South Bend, Indiana is videotaping their Sunday morning service to make available to this group. Other Church of God members who live in Colorado Springs and Denver will also be meeting with the group occasionally. We are thankful for the desire of these people to study the Scriptures and share the message of truth and salvation with others in their area.



Pastor Dan Kennedy leading worship at the new Sharpsburg, Georgia church.

### Goal for Giving Update

During the first four months of the fiscal year, \$104,292 has been received in contributions. This is about \$3,000 less than had been received in contributions last year at this time. Approximately \$31,000 is needed each month to carry out the programs and services authorized by delegates at the annual conference. Our thanks to individuals, churches, and state/district conferences for their faithful giving to College/Conference ministries.

# church news

## Marriages

### Illinois

Fox Valley — Colleen Lazaro and John Wesley Lewis (8/23/98) by Pastor Robert Alcumbrack.

Oregon — Emily Reye and James Michael Moyer (8/8/98) by Pastor Robert Alcumbrack.

Ripley — Kristi Kay Brown and Eric Robert Laning (8/29/98) by Pastor Thomas Schmitt.

### Michigan

Garden Park — Sara Knapp and Christopher Cook (8/8/98) by Pastor Chris Seiders.

### Minnesota

Eden Valley — Cory Finken and Carrie Piram (10/31/98) by Jerry Albert.

### Ohio

Columbia Christian Fellowship — Heather Gibbons and Floyd Speer (8/15/98); Shelley Shriver and Robbi Garrow (9/19/98) by Pastor David Swartz.

Golden Rule — Martha Hobbs and Don Waddel (9/5/98) by Pastor David Swartz.

North Hills — Rebekah Ann Hitt and Patrick Michael Piteo (8/5/98) by Assoc. Pastor Robert Petry.

## Baptisms

### Arkansas

McGintytown — Stephanie Willbanks, Shawn Cooper, and Ashley New (9/13/98) by Pastor Tom New.

### Georgia

Cornerstone — Karen Walters (9/20/98) by Pastor David Riley.

New Friends — Larry Hinton and George Whibbey (10/11/98) by Pastor Kent Ross.

### Illinois

Oregon — Hilary Jones (9/6/98) by Pastor Michael Hoffman.

### Indiana

Attica — Lois Tuggle (8/9/98) by Pastor Earl Poland.

### Michigan

Garden Park — Joshua Lawrence (8/23/98) by Pastor Ray Hall.

Pennellwood — Lindsey and Stephanie Berry (8/30/98) by Brian Berry; Nicole Bronson (8/30/98) by Darwin Bronson; and Ben Rowe (8/30/98) by Pastor Larry Mayberry.

### Minnesota

Eden Valley — Elesha Escalera and Beth Wendroth (8/23/98); Sarah Anselmant (10/11/98) by Pastor Russ Magaw.

Litchfield — Sara Holmgren (8/23/98) by Pastor Russ Magaw.

### North Carolina

Lenoir — Donald Swallows (11/1/98) by Pastor James Ritch.

### Wisconsin

Beloit — Candie Brannon, Kay Graham, Mike Schmertman, Greg Williams, Robert Parr (8/16/98); Tammy Witz, Faith Stewart (10/18/98) by Pastor Jason Turner.

## Deaths

### Arizona

Lakeshore — Roselin Huffer, faithful member (9/29/98); Marjorie Miller, long-time member (10/19/98) by Pastor Greg Demmitt.

### Illinois

Dixon — George Haberer, Jr, 73, (10/7/98) by Pastor Hollis Partlowe.

Macomb — Alma C. Pestle, services 10/24/98 by C. Jesse Pestle.

Ripley — Earl Burdette Kirkham, member (7/23/98) by Pastor Richard Young.

### Indiana

North Salem — Correction: Lester Capron (6/3/98) by Pastor Stanley Lawrence.

### Michigan

Pennellwood — Carol Ratering, 60, long-time faithful member, (9/22/98) by Pastors Rex Cain, Alan Cain and Larry Mayberry.

### Minnesota

Eden Valley — Harold Matheny (11/08/98) 78, long-time member of Eden Valley, by Pastor Russ Magaw.

### Missouri

Morse Mill — H. Douglas "Doug" Lee Jr., Elder and Sexton, (7/10/98) by Pastor Alan Cain.

### Ohio

Tipp City — James H. (Joe) Smith, 75, long-time member and brother of Pastor E. Richard Smith (9/26/98) by Pastor Dale H. Swartz.



Mike Schmertman being baptized at Beloit, Wisconsin by Pastor Jason Turner. See news items above for other baptisms at Beloit and in other churches.



# Church of God Progress Journal

Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference

January, February, 1999

Volume 41, Number 2

## Praying the Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

As we approach a new century and a new millenium, the Board of Directors and staff of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference and our pastors recognize the importance of a renewed emphasis on prayer. As we anticipate the soon return of Jesus to establish the kingdom here on the earth, we are faced with many challenges. We are surrounded by many who are unprepared for the return of Jesus. We live in a world that is becoming increasingly hostile to Christianity.

All members of the Church of God are invited to become partners in prayer as we "Pray the Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Additional information will be mailed to all those who wish to be partners in prayer.

## Second Semester Begins

Seven new students enrolled at ABC for the second semester. Four students did not return. Since there is a normal net loss from the first semester to the second semester, we are grateful for this gain. We are glad to welcome both Church of God students and community students to our program. We continue to appreciate the prayer and financial support that enables the college to continue its ministry.

## Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors met on the campus January 7 – 9 to conduct regular business and to engage in long-range planning. The Board discussed and took action on the following topics:

1. Reviewed and approved the work of the Program Committee for the 1999 Summer General Conference.
2. Reviewed outreach efforts of several churches.
3. Discussed church planting opportunities.
4. Discussed the Y2K issue as it relates to our organization. Computers for our organization are fully Y2K compliant. Though there are concerns that this problem may affect the world economy, our trust is in God who is in control of all things.
5. Reviewed and complimented the Doctrinal Distinctive Curriculum which is currently in use in our Sunday schools.
6. Approved the continuation of membership in the National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors. The General Conference has a long-standing policy of supporting those who choose to be conscientious objectors.
7. Discussed leadership needs of our churches. A letter will be sent by President Krogh to all OBC/ABC graduates from recent years who are not currently involved in pastoral ministry, encouraging them to enter/reenter pastoral ministry.

8. Received a report from the Ministerial Recognition Board regarding the charismatic/Pentecostal issue. The MRB is continuing work on this subject.
9. Designated September 19, 1999, as ABC Booster Sunday. Board members, staff, and students will visit many churches to report on the college.
10. Awarded the Spring 1999 Church Builders Appeal to Beloit New Life Church in Wisconsin.
11. Granted Church Development Aid to the Litchfield Church of God in Minnesota.
12. Reviewed all of the work of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference, considering accomplishments of the past year and challenges we face this year.
13. Discussed the filling of the following ABC/General Conference positions: Youth/Recruitment Coordinator, Spiritual Life/Evangelism Coordinator. Individuals interested in serving are invited to send a resume to President David Krogh.
14. Adopted a motion to pay tuition expenses for the Youth Specialties Convention for local youth leaders and spouses. There is a limit of two people per church. \$100 per couple will also be given to help with the cost of meals. Local churches and/or the youth leaders will be asked to cover the cost of travel and lodging. Additional information will be provided to pastors and youth leaders.
15. Heard a preliminary report of the work of the Organizational Task Force.

The Board will meet again on the campus April 9 and 10.

**(continued on page six)**

## Atlanta Bible College Receives Accreditation

Atlanta Bible College has been accepted as an accredited member of the Accrediting Commission International. The President of the commission visited the campus of Atlanta Bible College on November 10. He was very complimentary of our facilities, our library, our staff, and our programs. Accreditation was granted on December 17.

The Accrediting Commission International has accredited over 150 Christian schools and colleges in 33 states and 12 countries. They have a very high code of ethics and are committed to excellence. An onsite visit is required every seven years to maintain full accreditation.

We are grateful for this recognition of the quality program offered by Atlanta Bible College. This recognition will enhance the transferability of our course credits into other colleges and universities.

---

# 1998 CONTRIBUTIONS TO GOALS FOR GIVING

## (For General Operations)

Individuals and Families	552	131,552
Churches	69	163,957
Conferences	8	9,895
Groups	17	4,458
Miscellaneous	1	4,884
<b>Total Contributions to Goals for Giving</b>		<b>\$314,746</b>

## 1998 CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL FUNDS

Library Memorials	385
Archives Computerization	6,345
ABC Foundation	600
Scholarships	28,849
Church Builders' Appeals	28,905
Foreign Missions	4,658
Russia	13,329
Summer '98 Russia Trip	5,639
Miscellaneous	4,765
Fund the Dream Campaign	14,883
Radio Ministry	20,049
Bequests	284,150
<b>Total Contributions to Special Funds</b>	<b>\$412,556</b>

**Grand Total to All College/Conference Ministries \$727,302**

# In Memoriam 1998

Pastor Harold J. Doan  
Margaret L. Duval  
John Craig English  
Kenneth Hale  
Orvena Johnson  
Pastor Delbert Jones  
Norman Kelly  
Pastor J. Arlen Marsh

Mary Helen Mattison  
Sybil Stilson McLeod  
Rachel Humphreys Morris  
Lucian Murphy  
Pastor Harry Payne  
Pastor C. F. and Helen Pryor  
Mildred Stantial  
Pastor Dale Ward

## Scholarships and Grants For Atlanta Bible College During 1998

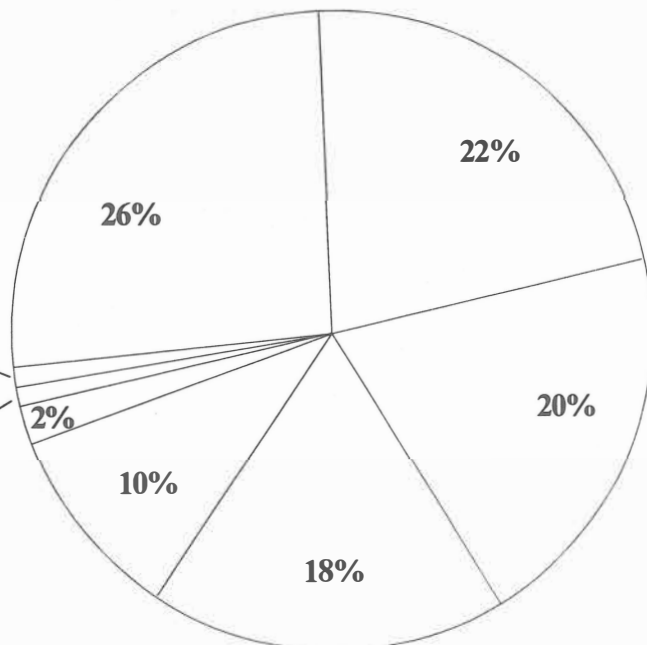
The following grants and scholarships were awarded to Atlanta Bible College students. Other individuals, churches, and groups provided assistance directly to students in addition to these scholarships and grants administered by the college.

ABC/OBC Alumni Association  
Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation  
Berean Youth Fellowship  
Burnham – Stadden  
Burr Oak Church  
Community Bible Fellowship, Culver, Indiana  
Francis and Lila Van Fleet Memorial  
Freedom in Christ Ministries  
Harold J. Doan Memorial  
Harry and Emily Berry Memorial  
Harvey U. Krogh, Jr. Memorial  
Hattie Bottolfs Memorial  
Helen Overholser Memorial  
Indiana Conference  
Iris Elton Memorial  
James A. Patrick Memorial – Northeast Conference  
Jean Elton Fortney Memorial  
John and Ruth Lewis Memorial  
Lawrenceville/Overholser  
Lois Blakely Memorial  
Lucian Murphy Memorial  
Mary Helen Mattison Memorial

Michigan State Conference  
Mildred Schroder  
Ministerial Association  
Minnesota State Conference  
Missouri Conference  
Monroe Elton Memorial  
New Hope Church, Little Rock  
Ritenour Trust Fund – In Memory of  
Eliza Boyer  
Ritenour, Virginia Ritenour Kincheloe,  
and Seraphine Ritenour Cleek  
Ruby L. Chaplin Memorial  
Simi Valley, California Church  
Southeast Conference  
Southwest Members in Memory of  
Norman McLeod, S.J. Lindsay, Harold  
J. Doan and C.E. Randall  
Stan Ross Memorial  
Troy View/Demmitt/Overholser  
Virginia State Conference  
Wenatchee Church  
William and Rhoda Hanson Memorial  
Zelma Weaver Memorial

# Sources of Income for ABC/COGGC

Contributions from Churches	26%
Contributions from Individuals and Families	22%
Trust Income	20%
College Tuition, Fees and Rent	18%
Sales and Service	10%
Contributions from Conferences	2%
Contributions from Groups	1%
Miscellaneous	1%

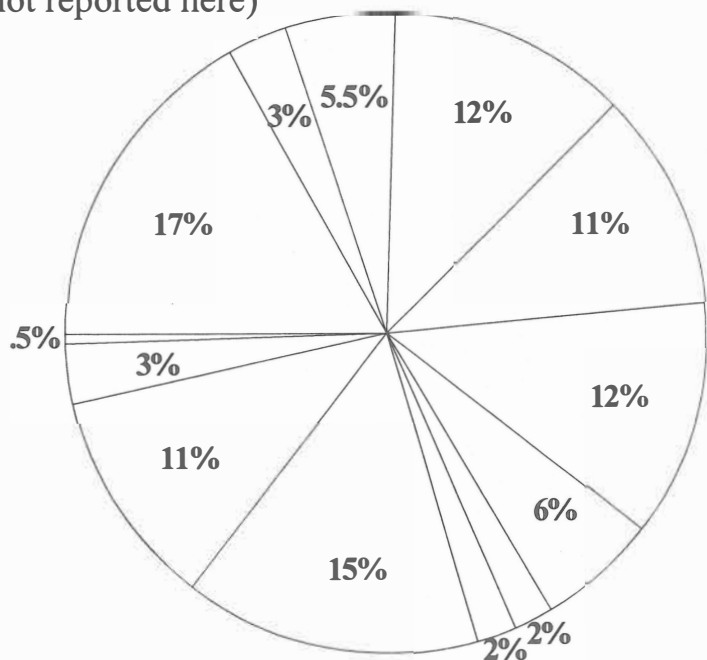


Contributions provide 51% of income for the Conference/College. We are grateful for all who contribute to the ongoing ministries of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference.

# How Each Dollar Contributed to the General Fund Is Used

(other contributions restricted by the donor are not reported here)

ABC Instruction	17%
ABC Student Services (admissions, registration, counseling)	3%
ABC Academic Support (library)	5.5%
Institutional Support (board, public relations, phone, travel, staff training, printing)	12%
Plant – maintenance, utilities)	11%
Business Services (bookkeeping, mailing dept., sales, computer)	12%
Youth	6%
Christian Education	2%
Missions Administration	2%
Outreach	15%
Publishing, Radio/TV	11%
Pastor Services	3%
Senior Ministry	0.5%



## Report of Baptisms: 2,000 by A.D. 2000

Jan. 1,  
2000

	Total
April 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998*	88
April 1, 1997 - March 31, 1998	141
April 1, 1996 - March 31, 1997	158
April 1, 1995 - March 31, 1996	164
April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995	162
April 1, 1993 - March 31, 1994	142
April 1, 1992 - March 31, 1993	164
April 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992	170
June 1, 1990 - March 31, 1991	168
January 1 - May 31, 1990	55
	<b>1,412</b>

\* More complete figures are being collected from non-reporting churches.

## Prayer and Praise February 1999

- 1 **Pray for churches that are seeking pastors.**
- 2 Pray for Pastor Mark and Terri Tschaenn and the Lawrenceville Church in Ohio.
- 3 **Praise God for your family and friends.**
- 4 Pray for Tracy Savage as she gets married and visits churches in the United States.
- 5 **Pray for the students at Atlanta Bible College.**
- 6 Pray for someone you know who needs to accept Christ.
- 7 **Praise God for the ministry of Pastor Beder Ucanay in Peru and the recent baptism in Lima.**
- 8 Pray for Pastor Alan and Susan Cain and the Bethel, SC church and their building project.
- 9 **Praise God for His daily blessings on your life.**
- 10 Pray for the members of your church family.
- 11 **Pray for the leaders of your government.**
- 12 Praise God for the opportunities He has provided for outreach in Russia.
- 13 **Pray for retired Pastor Vernis Wolfe and his wife Iris.**
- 14 Pray for the ministries of your local church.
- 15 **Pray for youth and youth ministries in the Church of God.**
- 16 Pray for those making preparations for the upcoming Christian Workers' Seminar.
- 17 **Pray for someone you know who is in need of healing (physical, emotional, or spiritual).**
- 18 Praise God for a recent answer to prayer.
- 19 **Pray for the brethren in the Philippines.**
- 20 Pray for retired Pastor Richard K. Smith and his wife Dorothy Jean.
- 21 **Praise God for the work of the Sunday School quarterly editors.**
- 22 Pray for a renewed spirit of evangelism and revival.
- 23 **Pray for the staff at the College/Conference.**
- 24 Praise God for the Board of Directors and its leadership.
- 25 **Pray for the church in Magazine, AR.**
- 26 Pray for the filling of several staff positions at ABC/General Conference.
- 27 **Praise God for the promise of a new heaven and earth.**
- 28 Pray for the teachers in your local church.

## Calendar of Events

- March 4-6** College Invitational Weekend
- April 11-16** Christian Workers' Seminar, Holiday Inn, Pigeon Forge, TN
- April 23, 24** SE Women's Retreat, Marietta Baptist Camp, SC
- April 26-30** Ministers' Conference, ABC campus, Morrow, GA
- April 30-May 2** Eighth Annual Theological Conference, ABC campus, Morrow, GA
- June 9-17** ABC Holy Land Trip
- June 20-25** Midwest Family Camp, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
- July 12-15** 79th Annual Summer Conference, Henry VIII Hotel, St. Louis, MO
- July 25-30** RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN
- October 8, 9** Midwest Women's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN

# Prayer and Praise

## March 1999

- 1 Pray that God will raise up missionary candidates.
- 2 Praise God for the faithful leadership of the Badillo family in Mexico.
- 3 Pray for Pastor Tom and Debbie New and the work at McGintytown, Arkansas.
- 4 Praise God for those who provide prayer and financial support for the College/Conference ministries.
- 5 Pray for those attending College Invitational at ABC this weekend.
- 6 Pray for those considering attending Atlanta Bible College in the future.
- 7 Pray that God will provide safety for those returning home from College Invitational.
- 8 Pray for Pastor Greg and Kim Shaw in their ministry at Valley View, Arizona.
- 9 Pray for someone you know who is discouraged or depressed.
- 10 Pray that God's spirit might be felt at the upcoming Christian Workers' Seminar.
- 11 Pray for Pastor Michael and Diane Brown and the Macomb, IL Church of God.
- 12 Pray for Pastors Kent Ross and Joe Martin and the New Friends Bible Church in Morrow, Georgia.
- 13 Pray for Pastor Wally and Peggy Winner and the work at Guthrie Grove in South Carolina.
- 14 Praise God for all who have dedicated their lives to ministry.
- 15 Pray for a spirit of unity in the bond of peace.
- 16 Pray for a special need in your life.
- 17 Praise God for those who have provided spiritual instruction for you.
- 18 Pray for an opportunity to share God's love with someone.
- 19 Pray for those who are searching God's Word for answers to life's problems.
- 20 Pray for Pastor Earl and Dee Poland and the Tri County, IN church work.
- 21 Pray for the brethren in India.
- 22 Pray for Steve and Pam Grant and their ministry in the Middle East.
- 23 Pray for the filling of several staff positions at the College/Conference.
- 24 Praise God for your Christian friends all over the world.
- 25 Pray for eyes to see those who are in need and a heart to reach out to them.
- 26 Pray for the work in Malawi.
- 27 Praise God for the promise of Christ's soon return.
- 28 Pray for your pastor and his family.
- 29 Pray for Pastor Mike and Myra Montgomery as they serve at the Troy, OH Church of God.
- 30 Praise God for new attenders or members at your local congregation.
- 31 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

(continued from page one)

### Systematic Bible Study Course available over Internet

The Church of God General Conference authorized the Hector Church of God to make the Systematic Bible Study Course available through its web page. Visitors to the website will be able to study a lesson on line as well as fill out and complete the question sheet that accompanies each lesson, on line. Vivian and Gaylene Kirkpatrick have spent over 100 hours working on this project and have completed approximately half of the lessons. They have also completed some of the question sheets. We appreciate their dedication to completing this large project. The Hector website can be accessed as a link from the Church of God General Conference website: [www.abc-coggc.org](http://www.abc-coggc.org) or directly at [www.hectorcog.com](http://www.hectorcog.com).

### Focus on the Kingdom Radio Program

A number of new stations are now broadcasting the Focus on the Kingdom tapes. Two hundred fifty, 15 minute programs produced by Anthony Buzzard are on 13 stations, the Internet, and available around the world on short wave radio. We continue to receive many calls for free literature. Some of the programs are being funded by Church of God families; some by non Church of God individuals; and others are being sponsored by local churches and state conferences.

### Annual Giving Report

On pages 2 and 3 of this PROGRESS JOURNAL is a review of contributions and gifts to Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference during the past year. We are extremely grateful to all the individuals, churches, conferences, and groups that have made it possible for this work to advance.

### 1998-1999 Church of God Directory

Multiple copies of the Church of God Directory have been mailed to pastors and secretaries to be made available to those who wish to have a copy. Additional copies of the directory are available by contacting the General Conference office.

### Christian Workers' Seminar

April 11-16, 1999 **LOW RATES!\***  
Holiday Inn — Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

	Early Bird**	Regular
4 to a room	\$199.00	\$219.00/person
3 to a room	\$219.00	\$239.00/person
2 to a room	\$259.00	\$279.00/person
1 to a room	\$369.00	\$389.00/person

\* Breakfast on your own.

\*\* Early bird registration fee (applies through March 5).

There will be classes on prayer, personal renewal, worship, joy, loving God, faith, Bible truths and much more.

Returnees who bring a friend who has never been at seminar before will have a 10% discount off the registration fee.

# Supplies Order Form

Prices Effective February 1, 1999 • Atlanta Bible College • Box 100,000 • Morrow, GA 30260

PART A

Quantity		Cost
<b>BOOKS</b>		
....	<i>The Case Against Pornography</i> (Wildmon)	1.00
....	<i>The Coming Kingdom of the Messiah</i> (Buzzard)	4.95
....	<i>The Coming Kingdom of the Messiah Study Guide</i> (Buzzard)	3.95
....	<i>Daring to Differ</i> (Sidney Hatch)	9.95
....	<i>One God</i> (Judd)	3.95
....	<i>Our Fathers Who Aren't in Heaven</i> (Buzzard)	13.50
....	<i>Prophecies of Daniel</i> . . . (Mark Mattison)	2.95
....	<i>Prophecies of the End of the Age</i> (Jim Mattison)	4.95
....	<i>The Protestors</i> (L. Alan Eyre)	16.00
....	<i>Systematic Theology</i> , hard cover (Huffer)	19.95
....	<i>Systematic Theology</i> , soft cover (Huffer)	10.95
....	<i>Triumph of the Resurrection</i> , 176 pp., soft cover (Huffer)	3.95
....	<i>Truths for Today</i> (Stan Ross)	4.00
....	<i>Wrested Scriptures</i> (Christadelphian)	18.00
<b>HYMNALS</b>		
....	<i>Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs</i>	12.95
....	(loose-leaf version for musicians)	16.95
<b>BOOKLETS</b>		
....	The Abrahamic & Davidic Covenants (Jim Mattison)	1.75
....	Christ or Confusion (Gospel Pub. League)	.95
....	Christ Speaks to the Church (Partlowe)	1.95
....	The Church of God: A Historical Sketch	1.00
....	Concerning the Nations (Gospel Pub. League)	.95
....	Daniel's Prophetic Outline of History (Partlowe)	.95
....	Except (baptism, Bilton)	1.15
....	First Principles (Marsh)	.75
....	From Eden to Eternity: God's Plan of the Ages (Partlowe)	3.00
....	Fundamentals of the Christian Faith (Lyon)	.75
....	God's Covenant with Abraham (Lindsay)	.75
....	God's Great Plus Sign to the World (Partlowe)	.75
....	The Last Will & Testament of Jesus	.75
....	The Law, Sabbath & N.T. Christianity (Buzzard)	1.95
....	Making the Most of Your Marriage (Partlowe)	1.95
....	The Miracle of Pentecost (Partlowe)	1.95
....	The Mortality of Man (Landry)	2.95
....	Russia, Israel, Christ and You (Bilton)	1.25
....	Scripture Searcher's Assistant	.95
....	What Happens When We Die? (Buzzard)	2.95
....	Who Is Jesus? (Buzzard)	2.95
....	Words of Truth, Subject Concordance	1.50
<b>CHURCH SUPPLIES</b>		
....	Baptismal Certificates (doz. 5.00)	ea. .50

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Please specify starting date for quarterlies.

....	Pre-School Creative Teaching Aid Packet	10.95
....	Pre-School Teacher's Guide	4.50
....	Pre-School Make-It/Take-It (students, pre-school)	2.95
....	Early Elementary Creative Teaching Aid Packet	10.95
....	Early Elementary Teacher's Guide	4.50
....	Early Elementary Stories (for teachers)	2.95
....	Early Elementary Make-It/Take-It (students, kinder.-grade 1)	2.95
....	Early Elementary Bible Beginnings (students, kinder.-grade 1)	2.95
....	Elementary Creative Teaching Aids Packet	10.95
....	Elementary Teacher's Guide	4.50
....	Elementary Student lessons (2 books) (grades 2-3)	5.25
....	Upper Elementary Creative Teaching Aids Packet	10.95
....	Upper Elementary Teacher's Guide	4.50
....	Upper Elementary Student lessons (grades 4-5)	2.95
....	Middle School Creative Teaching Aids Packet	10.95
....	Middle School Teacher's Guide	4.50
....	Middle School lessons—The Rock (grades 6-8)	2.95
....	High School Creative Teaching Aids Packet	10.95
....	High School Teacher's Guide	4.50
....	High School lessons—I. D. (grades 9-12)	2.95
....	Adult Teacher's Guide	4.50
....	Adult Student books	3.75
....	<i>Free sample pack of materials available</i>	Free
....	Sunday School Openings Idea Book	2.50

## BIBLE STUDY COURSES

....	Berean Bible Studies, No. 1 (50 lessons)	5.00
....	Berean Scripture Studies, No. 2 (52 lessons)	1.95
....	BYF Focus	1.95
....	The Nature and Destiny of Man (13 lessons—Goit)	1.95
....	Where Do I Fit? (8 lessons—Partlowe)	1.95

## BIBLE COURSES (29 lessons)

....	<i>Systematic Theology</i> correspondence course	Free by enrollment
....	Loose-leaf edition	2.95
....	Bound edition	3.95

## PERIODICALS

....	<i>The Restitution Herald</i>	13.00 per year
....		individual copies 2.25
....	<i>A Journal from the Radical Reformation</i>	24.00 per year

Total Cost of Part A \$

PART B

Part B: The tracts listed below are available at \$4.50 per hundred (please order each tract in lots of 50). You may order individual tracts at 8¢ each, but with a minimum of 25.

<b>EVANGELISM TRACTS</b>	<b>BIBLE DOCTRINE TRACTS</b>
.... ABC's of Salvation	.... Baptism
.... An Invitation	.... The Covenants of Promise
.... An Invitation to Life	.... Christian Tithing, An Act of Faith
.... Bible Faith Stands the Test of Time	.... God's Laws Concerning Marriage
.... The Blood Bank of the Bible	.... God's Retirement Plan for You:
.... Can God Help Me?	The Benefits [Formerly: "Resurrection"]
.... Can You Believe?	.... The History of Baptism
.... Do You Ever Think About God?	.... Is Faith Possible?
.... Have a Good Day	.... Is Going to Heaven Our Reward?
.... Here's My Tip	.... Jesus Christ,
.... One Step From Death	the Only Begotten Son of God
.... Puzzled?	.... The Marriage God Planned
.... Your Introduction to the Church of God	.... The Meaning of the Word "Soul"
<b>BIBLE PROPHECY TRACTS</b>	.... The Nature of the Soul
.... The Darkening of the Sun Moon and Stars	.... Seven Bible Reasons
.... God's Tomorrow	for Christian Baptism
.... The Kingdom of God	.... Should Christians Keep the Sabbath?
.... The Kingdom of God (Spanish)	.... The Truth About God
.... The Premillennial Coming of Christ	.... Two Hells
.... The Purpose of the Millennium	.... What Does the Abrahamic Faith Mean?
.... Signs of Jesus' Coming	.... What Happens After Death?
and the End of the World	.... What Is Man?
.... Signs of the Times	.... Who Owns the Wool?

## MISCELLANEOUS TRACTS

....	Chart of the Ages
....	From One Who Cares
....	How to Grow in Christ
....	How Your Pastor Can Help You
....	What Can We Read Tonight?

Total Number of Tracts \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of Part B \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Postage and Handling

Order up to \$10: add \$3.00
Order \$10 to \$20: add 20%
Order \$20 to \$99: add 10%
Order \$100+: add 5%
Overseas: Actual Cost

Total of Part A	\$ _____
Total of Part B (Tracts)	\$ _____
Amount of Complete Order	\$ _____
Postage & Handling	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Church News

## **Baptisms**

### *Illinois*

Rockford – April Wight (9/20/98) by Pastor Tim Spickler.

### *Michigan*

Southlawn – Barbara Miller (12/6/98) by Pastor Richard Alcumbrack.

### *Missouri*

Farmington – Candy Yawney (12/20/98), D.J. Yawney (12/20/98), and Jenny Yawney (12/20/98) by Pastor Jon T. Welch.

### *Ohio*

Brush Creek – Toni Quillen (11/15/98) by Pastor Dale Swartz.

### *South Carolina*

Pelzer (Bethel) – Justin Allison (6/21/98) and Bill Hammonds (11/15/98) by Pastor Alan Cain.

Pelzer (Guthrie Grove) – Jenifer Rector (10/25/98) by Pastor Wally Winner.

## **Deaths**

### *Canada*

Fonthill – Mabel Bunn, 98, long-time member (11/22/98) by Pastor Edward Goit. Jean Elliott, 88, long-time member (11/22/98) by Pastor Edward Goit. William R. Jenter, 90, long-time member (12/2/98) by Pastor Frank Toth.

### *California*

Los Angeles – Rachel Anna Humphreys Morris, 88, long-time member.

### *Illinois*

Oregon – Julia Spangler, long-time member (11/29/98) by Pastor Michael Hoffman.

## **Directory Corrections**

Pastor Jason Turner – e-mail: jetmat2@AOL.com

Pastor Chris Seiders – e-mail: blancog@power-net.net

Ministerial Recognition Board: Charles Bottolfs (504) 542-1555

Bedford, OH (Church of the Open Bible)

Rex Cain: 440-232-3970

Mary Ellen Jones: 440-543-4736

David and Kathy Onderdonk: 440-423-0205

Columbia Station, OH (Columbia Christian Fellowship)

David, Karen, and Michael Swartz: 440-327-6816

Columbia Station: 440-236-5336

Dan and Diane Benton: 440-748-2614

## **Change of Address**

Kennedy, Dan (Amy), 40 Clingstone Circle, Newnan, GA 30265, Ph Off 770-252-6530 Res 770-252-0026

## **Eden Valley Anniversary**

The Eden Valley Church of God, Eden Valley, MN will be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the church on April 23, 24, and 25, 1999. There will be an old-fashioned hymn sing Friday evening beginning at 7:30 p.m. followed by an ice cream social. There will be a full day of activities on Saturday with a service in the evening. On Sunday morning, we are planning a two-hour service with special music and memories shared by former pastor and/or their spouses. Kent and Cheryl Ross will be guest speaker/musician. Please join us!

## **50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

Robert and Better Zeller of Vernal, Utah, celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary January 12, 1999. They were married in Alliance, Nebraska, in 1949 (the year of the big blizzard). Their children Robert T., Ronald D., and Carolyn Sue Mann and their spouses held an open house January 9, 1999, at the Elks Lodge in Vernal, Utah, many friends and relatives attended. Robert and Betty are both members of the Church of God of the Abrahamic Faith. Brother E.E. Geisler of Moorfield, Nebraska baptized them.

---

Atlanta Bible College  
Church of God General Conference  
P.O. Box 100,000  
Morrow, GA 30260

**Address Correction Requested**

U.S. POSTAGE <b>PAID</b> PERMIT 21 Morrow, Georgia Nonprofit Organization
---



# Church of God Progress Journal

Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference

March, April, 1999

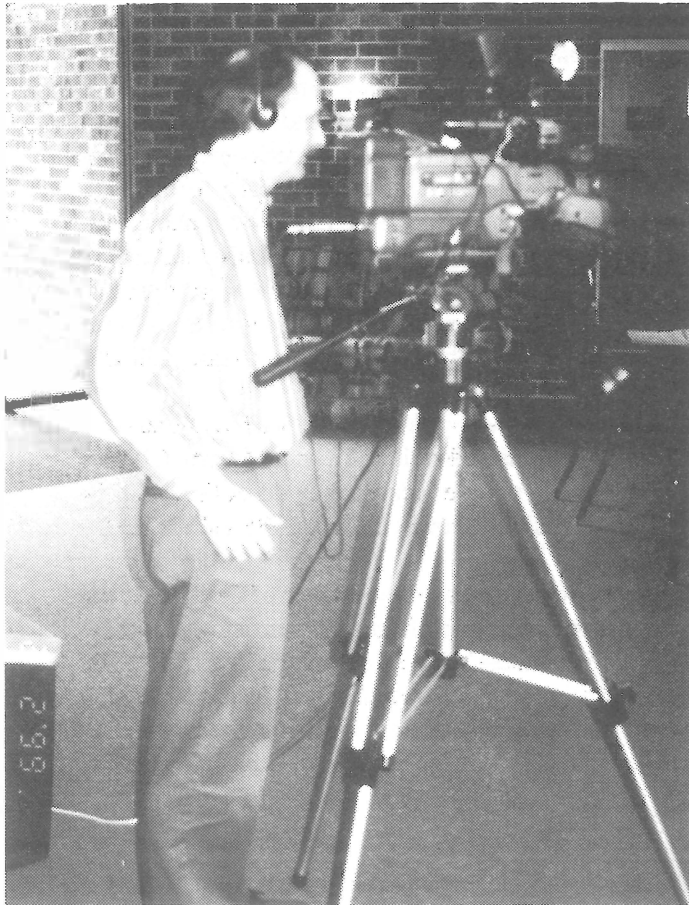
Volume 41, Number 3

## College Invitational

On the weekend of March 5 – 7, Atlanta Bible College hosted prospective students and sponsors. A total of 44 guests participated in the special weekend activities. The theme was "How to Maintain Morals in a World that Has None." Participants visited ABC classes, were interviewed by staff members, toured Clayton College and State University campus, took part in devotions and two special evening services, and heard several presentations about opportunities for ministry and programs of Atlanta Bible College.

## Technology Coordinator Visits Campus

Steve Taylor, who was hired as a part time technology coordinator for Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference, has visited the college campus twice recently. In the development of several promotional videos, students and staff were interviewed. Steve also has produced a video of the 1998 RYOT which has been distributed to all youth groups. He has also interviewed a number of pastors as he develops a video magazine which will be distributed to all of our churches. He also filmed a



seminar by ABC instructor Anthony Buzzard on "Christology and Conditionalism" at the Lawrenceville Church in Ohio on March 20.

## Focus on the Kingdom Radio Program

In August 1998, the Timberland Bible Church in South Bend, Indiana began broadcasting Anthony Buzzard's "Focus on the Kingdom Radio Program." After six months of broadcasting, they feel that God has greatly blessed this endeavor. Forty listeners have phoned for literature, six have visited services, and two are now regular attenders. Unfortunately, the radio station has abruptly cancelled the broadcast because of opposition from some area churches. An effort is underway to find another station that will broadcast this Biblical message regarding the Coming Kingdom of God.

The program is currently being aired on 10 stations including the Internet. We would encourage other churches and state conferences to consider airing this program series. We are working through an agent who is able to secure broadcast time on a multitude of stations. For more information, please contact Anthony Buzzard at 800-347-4261.

In conjunction with the Radio Ministry, a monthly magazine entitled "Focus on the Kingdom" is also being published. There are now more than 800 free copies that are distributed each month.

*(continued on page 4)*

## Praying the Church into the 21st Century

More than 100 individuals have indicated their desire to be partners in prayer as we "Pray the Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." To become a prayer partner, please call 800-347-4261 or request participation by e-mail at: [info@abc-coggc.org](mailto:info@abc-coggc.org).

We encourage everyone to pray at least once each day for the following needs:

1. For personal spiritual renewal, brokenness and humility.
2. Renewal of our churches.
3. For the outpouring of God's spirit upon the leadership and members of our churches.
4. A passion for reaching the lost through outreach efforts and a vision for the harvest.
5. For strength to overcome temptation and for power in the battle against sin in the world.
6. That each member would have a hunger and thirst for righteousness.
7. That each of our churches will be strengthened in their worship, fellowship, study, and witness.

---

# An Outreach Focus

by Dr. William D. Lawrence

If one of us were looking out our front window and saw a bully beating a child and our neighbor attempting to stop the battle, but without much success, most of us would run out and help the neighbor to stop the beating. We would not refrain from going if our neighbor is a non-Christian, an agnostic or even an atheist; nor would we withhold our aid if our neighbor is from an orthodox church or, in fact, even if he is a minister of an orthodox church. I'll wager it would not matter to us if the child was Christian, non-Christian or orthodox Christian; or black, white, yellow or red.

This country is full of evils such as abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide, and euthanasia — just to mention a few practices Jesus would abhor. Unfortunately, we may never be able to stop these horrible evils from happening, but is there more we could do in order to show God's unconditional love to the world?

In the parable of the Good Samaritan recorded in Luke 10:25-37, Jesus speaks directly to what we are to do when someone is hurting. Jesus didn't (maybe purposely) tell us the origin or faith of the robbed and beaten man. He did state that the "helper" was a Samaritan and pointed out that the Jewish priest and Levite were indifferent or even hard-hearted. To our knowledge, at this time most or all of the Samaritans were not Christian and didn't even worship in Jerusalem, so their mixed Jewish heritage had not pointed them to the Jewish Jehovah or the Christian Jehovah and Jesus His Son. Regardless, Jesus said "Go and do likewise." Should we do any less?

I see such a need in reaching out to those who are hurting in the world like the child being beaten by the bully as well as those who have not accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. I mentioned in a previous article that I used to focus on teaching only the Church of God distinctives and I was not actively involved in practicing the things Jesus taught. I'm now certain in my mind that this previous attitude and focus was not pleasing to Jesus. I needed to let my belief in Jesus be seen in the way I lived. I needed to focus, not only on teaching the truths of God's Word, but also on modeling them in my everyday life. There are some areas where I (or you) simply cannot carry out the deep love action for our neighbors that Jesus commands, the "go and do likewise" love, unless it is in alliance with some other Christians. I'm a member of the Christian Medical and Dental Society. I was not asked to sign anything against my Church of God distinctive beliefs which are of great importance to me. In con-

sultation with Hollis Partlowe on the membership application, I crossed out one word and wrote in another, at his suggestion, in order to clarify my belief about Jesus. I have worked in a Southern Baptist hospital in India while Mardy worked in and with our churches. Even then, no one has ever asked me to give up my beliefs. We've served Indian neighbors as Jesus commanded. There may be some time in the future when I will be asked to sign a paper in which my understanding of Jesus would be compromised. Some of you reading this may have found that to be true. In that situation, I would NOT compromise my faith.

My concern for the Church of God is that maybe we're not being blessed by God because we are not fulfilling Jesus' commandments and carrying out the great commission. Our numbers are diminishing, the percentage of churches we have pastors for is decreasing, and I don't detect a more loving, accepting, and forgiving attitude than we've experienced in the past. We've not even approached the natural growth we should have if our children were attending Churches of God. I'm convinced that if we were to be more of a reaching-out, neighbor-helping, loving, accepting group, we could turn around the deterioration in our numbers. "We are the only Bible some people read" was said by someone. I'm not saying we should compromise our doctrines, for my wife and I have not done that, but I am saying that following Jesus' commandments to love our neighbors and especially the family of believers (Gal. 6:10) is as important as trying to teach the doctrines that are unique to the Church of God of the Faith of Abraham. I am certain that, in my case, my past argumentative and critical spirit against those who disagreed with our distinctives was not evidence of loving my neighbor. Perhaps others in our churches can relate to that and maybe evaluate their attitudes as I have.

I am at the point where I know what we have done in the past and HOW we have done it, and it has not worked. We are losing our young people because they do not see a Christianity that relates to their everyday lives. **WE HAVE TO DO BETTER!**

There is a reluctance by some Church of God people and pastors to work with other Christian organizations. I've been told that it is because of the fear that the distinctive doctrines will be diluted and outsiders will assume that if we pray and work with an orthodox church or organization, then we believe like they do. The decision to work or not to work

with other Christian organizations will have to be an individual decision. It is obvious that our own children and other youth in our churches are not being stimulated or encouraged toward significant Christian service as pastors, youth leaders, missionaries, etc. Are we afraid to encourage or even allow our youth to attend for fear that they will be contaminated by orthodox thinking? If we have done such a tremendous job of educating our young people in the truths of God's Word, why do we worry that any kind of association with other Christian young people will cause our youth to go astray? Do you really believe that they will forget all they have learned in 18-20 years of life in the Church of God? Do we have a fear that our doctrines won't stand up to scrutiny? Jesus said, "O ye of little faith"! I'm convinced that our distinctive truths are well founded in Scripture and that they WILL hold up to honest scrutiny. The truth of Scripture will be preserved because God is behind His work. Doctrinal error will eventually be revealed for what it really is and the judgment will be left to God.

Some reading this will say that I am all hung up on numbers and that is no way to measure. It is one way to measure, and I am concerned that we are also falling short in another way to evaluate the health of a church. One measure I have heard of is "how many church members are going into full-time or part-time Christian work from any one church?" One of the reasons I have stopped to evaluate this is that in this area we are in deep trouble.

One of the subjects the Board of Directors struggled with at our last meeting (and previously) is an acute shortage of pastors for our existing churches. Our Bible College for a variety of reasons has practically no students dedicated to being pastors. Nationwide, in all denominations, this situation prevails.

One of my biggest concerns is this. In talking to many Church of God adults, I have found that a high percentage of their children are outside our church in their adult years and the majority are outside Christian gatherings. If this is accurate, and I must believe that it is, we need to critically assess what it is that has caused this situation to develop over the years. Have we been too critical toward those whose marriages have failed? Have we not impressed on our youth the important differences between truth and error? Have we tried to maintain the truth we've grown to love by trying to maintain power (control) in our church and not letting the new and younger converts take a leading role? These are important questions that each of us in the Church of God needs to address.

In summary, I see biblical evidence that we are to reach out in love regardless of who else is reaching out with us.

Even though the Samaritan may not have been a follower of Jesus, Jesus' answer to His questioner was "go and do likewise." I believe we can work with organizations which don't interpret Scripture as we do without diluting our doctrines, as we all seek to show our Christian love in unity by helping the helpless.

These are serious thoughts and many will question my commitment to the Church of God. I'll reaffirm that I unquestionably believe our distinctive doctrines as outlined in our Church of God constitution. The record of the past and the present is that I love and am dedicated to the Church of God. I would be less than honest, though, if I did not state these questions and thoughts which I feel the Holy Spirit has laid on my heart. ☞

ANNOUNCING THE . . .

## 125th Anniversary Celebration

### Minnesota State Conference of the Church of God

You are cordially invited to celebrate with us  
on June 11, 12, 13, 1999

Long Lake Bible Camp, Richmond, MN

Guest Speaker: Pastor Scott Ross.

Plus special events will take place all weekend  
long to celebrate our heritage and to praise  
God for His many blessings

For information,  
contact Pastor Vivian E. Kirkpatrick, II

320-848-6458

vekii@hutchtel.net



(continued from page 1)

**Understanding the Clergy Killer Phenomenon**

Atlanta Bible College in association with *The Parish Chute* and the Association of Battered Clergy, sponsored a one-day seminar on "Understanding the Clergy Killer Phenomenon." Dr. Lloyd Rediger of Albuquerque, New Mexico was the guest speaker. In addition to ABC students and staff, a number of individuals from the southeast United States attended the seminar. Valuable information was presented on ways to encourage and support pastors as they lead their congregations. Pictured above is the guest speaker.

**Senior Ministries**

Pastor Jack Hearp, Senior Ministries Coordinator is publishing a quarterly newsletter regarding ministry to senior citizens. May is Older American's Month. Many churches have a very active program for senior citizens. The Senior Ministries Newsletter is mailed to pastors and Senior Ministries coordinators. Each church is encouraged to appoint a person to serve as Senior Ministries coordinator.

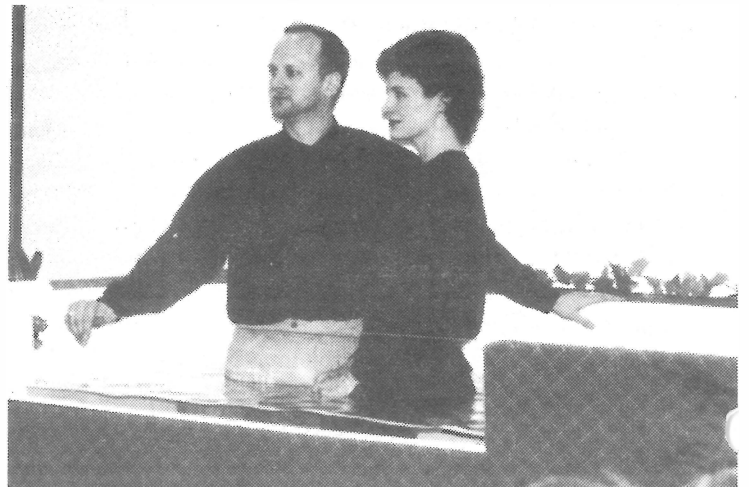
**Guaranteed Income**

Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference offers a gift annuity program. In exchange for a gift, the donor will receive a guaranteed life income, a portion of which is tax free, as well as an immediate income tax deduction for a portion of the gift. The donor also has the satisfaction of making a gift that is larger than might otherwise be possible. Interest rates are as follows:

Age	65	70	75	80	85	90+
Rate	5.5%	5.8%	6.5%	7.5%	8.5%	9.5%

For additional information, contact David Krogh at 800-347-4261.

(continued on page 6)



Pictured are Becky Jancze and Pastor David Riley at Cornerstone Bible Church.

**Report of Baptisms: 2,000 by A.D. 2000**

		Jan. 1, 2000
		Total
April 1, 1998 - February 28, 1999*	113	1,437
April 1, 1997 - March 31, 1998	141	
April 1, 1996 - March 31, 1997	158	
April 1, 1995 - March 31, 1996	164	
April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995	162	
April 1, 1993 - March 31, 1994	142	
April 1, 1992 - March 31, 1993	164	
April 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992	170	
June 1, 1990 - March 31, 1991	168	
January 1 - May 31, 1990	55	

\* More complete figures are being collected from non-reporting churches.

## Annual Ministers Conference

April 26 – 29, 1999

Church of God ministers are invited to the campus of Atlanta Bible College for the Annual Ministers Conference. Registration will begin Monday afternoon and the conference will end with lunch on Thursday.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Theological Conference

April 30 – May 2

### Principle guest speakers:

Werner Bartl of Austria, Ferenc Jeszenszky from Hungary, Clifford Forward from Canada, Juan Baixeras from Miami.

Lodging is available at the Red Roof Inn. Reservations can be made by calling 800-843-7663 and referring to the block booking number: B114000329.

Cost: Early bird by April 7 is: Regular Rate \$25.00; full-time student \$15.00. After April 7, the Regular Rate is \$35.00 and the full-time student rate is \$25.00. Call 800-347-4261 to make reservations or e-mail: info@abc-coggc.org.

## Calendar of Events

1999

**April 11-16** Christian Workers' Seminar,  
Holiday Inn, Pigeon Forge, TN

**April 23, 24** SE Women's Retreat, Marietta Baptist  
Camp, SC

**April 23-25** Eden Valley, MN church 100th  
anniversary Celebration

**April 25** Oregon, IL church 100th anniversary  
celebration

**April 26-30** Ministers' Conference, ABC campus,  
Morrow, GA

**April 30-May 2** Eighth Annual Theological Conference,  
ABC campus, Morrow, GA

**June 7** ABC graduation

**June 9-17** ABC Holy Land Trip

**June 11-13** Minnesota 125th anniversary conference

**June 20-25** Midwest Family Camp, Camp Mack,  
Milford, IN

**July 12-15** 79th Annual Summer Conference,  
Henry VIII Hotel, St. Louis, MO

**July 25-30** RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN

**October 8, 9** Midwest Women's Retreat, Camp Mack,  
Milford, IN

**October 15, 16** SE Men's Retreat, Marietta Baptist Camp,  
SC

**November 5, 6** Midwest Men's Retreat, Camp Mack,  
Milford, IN

2000

**July 16-21** RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN

**July 31-August 4** 80th Annual Summer Conference,  
Rockford, IL

## Prayer and Praise

### April 1999

- 1 Pray for Pastor Ray and Susan Hall and the Garden Park, Michigan Church of God.
- 2 Praise God for new life in Christ.
- 3 Pray for your pastor as he prepares to share God's word tomorrow.
- 4 Pray for Pastor Rex and Sharon Cain and their work in Bedford, Ohio.
- 5 Pray for Anthony Buzzard's correspondence with truth seekers around the world.
- 6 Pray for those whose eyes are blinded to the Gospel.
- 7 Praise God for the faithful prayer and financial partners of the College/Conference.
- 8 Praise God for the leadership of your local church.
- 9 Pray for Pastor Craig and Shirley Wagganer and the Troy, Ohio Church of God.
- 10 Pray for opportunities to witness to those without Christ.
- 11 Pray for retired Pastor Ed Goit and his wife, Viola.
- 12 Pray for those attending Christian Workers' Seminar this week.
- 13 Pray for the churches in your state/district Conference.
- 14 Pray for the students and staff of Atlanta Bible College.
- 15 Praise God for the ministry and service of your church leaders.
- 16 Praise God for the gifts of His Son, and the resurrection of Jesus.
- 17 Pray for the New Hope Church in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- 18 Praise God for dedicated Church of God ministers.
- 19 Pray for retired Chaplain Orville Westlund.
- 20 Pray for the ministry of the Badillo family in Mexico.
- 21 Pray for David Krogh in his position as president of our College and Conference.
- 22 Praise God for His faithfulness.
- 23 Pray for the soon return of Christ.
- 24 Pray for Pastor Darrell and Tara Cardwell and their work at East Peoria, Illinois.
- 25 Pray that God might use you to lead the lost to salvation.
- 26 Pray for those traveling to Atlanta for the Ministers Conference this week.
- 27 Pray for the Ministers Conference being held at ABC this week.
- 28 Praise God for the secretarial staff of Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference, Donna Barron, Annie Morrison, and Amethyst Burris.
- 29 Pray for the Family of God Fellowship in Maple Grove, Minnesota.
- 30 Pray for the 8<sup>th</sup> Theological Conference that begins today.

# Prayer and Praise

## May 1999

- 1 Pray for the editors of our Conference publications.
- 2 Pray for Pastor Vivian and Paula Kirkpatrick and the Hector, Minnesota Church of God.
- 3 Praise God for the ministry of Pastor Jim Raymond and the Pomona Church.
- 4 Pray for the ministry of Pastor Ken and Eva Howe and the Country Chapel, Indiana Church of God.
- 5 Pray for the Church at Casey, Illinois.
- 6 Praise God for students who are preparing for service at Atlanta Bible College.
- 7 Pray for Merry Peterson as she completes her Bachelor's Degree at ABC.
- 8 Pray for Pastor Greg and Karen Demmitt and the work at Tempe, Arizona.
- 9 Praise God for your mother and her influence in your life.
- 10 Pray for Pastor Jeff and Karen Fletcher and the Happy Woods Church in Hammond, Louisiana.
- 11 Pray for believers who are in nursing homes and hospitals.
- 12 Praise God for the ministry of Pastor Michael and Linda Hoffman and the Oregon, Illinois Church of God.
- 13 Pray for the congregation at Omaha, Nebraska, and Pastor Scott and Gayle Ross.
- 14 Praise God for the strength He provides each day.
- 15 Pray for Pastor Mark Good and his work with Arkansas churches.
- 16 Praise God for new attenders at your local church.
- 17 Pray for the scattered members of the Holbrook, Nebraska congregation.
- 18 Pray for those who are responding to the Focus on the Kingdom radio program.
- 19 Praise God for the faithful work of Pastor Leon and Delores Driskill over many years.
- 20 Pray for healing for someone you know who is in need.
- 21 Pray for David and Wanda Cheatwood and the ministry at Blessed Hope Bible Church, Rockford, Illinois.
- 22 Pray for your family and friends.
- 23 Pray for the ministry of Pastor Scott and Theresa Deane and the church at Pleasant Hill, Ohio.
- 24 Pray for those who are preparing for full-time Christian service.
- 25 Praise God for the work of Pastor Don and Joyce Ward and the Raymore, Missouri Church of God.
- 26 Pray for the summer ministries program.
- 27 Pray for a new group of believers in Pueblo, Colorado.
- 28 Pray for Church of God members throughout the world as they minister to others.
- 29 Pray for the brethren in India.
- 30 Pray for Pastor Jon Welch and the Farmington, Missouri Church.
- 31 Praise God for all that He has done and is doing in your life.



*(continued from page 4)*

### **Tracy Savage Married**

Tracy Savage and Stepan Zhykhovich who live near St. Petersburg, Russia were recently married at the Pine Grove Bible Church, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. Pastor Sydney Kirkpatrick conducted the ceremony. Following their wedding, they stopped in Atlanta on their way to Florida. They are pictured here standing in the lobby of the ABC Administration Building under the Russian flag. Tracy shared her heart for the Lord's work in the College Chapel Service. Stepan was baptized by ABC instructor, Joe Martin. Stepan and Tracy have now returned to Russia.

### **Mission Trips Scheduled**

Mission trips are being planned to Malawi and Mexico this summer. Additional information about these trips will be available from the Lord's Harvest International Board.

### **Sunday School Curriculum**

The Christian Education Advisory Committee would like to receive feedback from the special Sunday school curriculum that was offered for the December 1998 – February 1999 quarter. An evaluation form has been sent to pastors and Sunday school superintendents. Feedback from users of this material will be helpful as the curriculum is revised in the future.

*You are invited to . . .*

# The 1999 Annual General Conference

Henry VIII Hotel and Conference Center –  
St. Louis, Missouri

July 12-15, 1999

The Body of Christ  
Ephesians 4:1-32

	Early Bird*	Regular
6 to a suite	\$160	\$180
5 to a suite	\$170	\$190
4 to a room	\$180	\$200
3 to a room	\$200	\$220
2 to a room	\$245	\$265
1 to a room	\$360	\$380
Children under 2, no charge		
Children 3 to 10 (assuming at least two others in a room)	\$130	\$150
Commuters (with meals but no lodging)	\$117	\$137
Commuters (no meals and no lodging)	\$20	\$25

\*Registration postmarked by June 11, 1999

## Pre-Summer Conference Activities

Those attending the Summer General Conference are invited to come early to participate in services and activities at churches near St. Louis. Schedule for Sunday, July 11 is as follows:

Morse Mill: Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Farmington: Morning Service 10:00 a.m.

Fredericktown: Sunday School 10:00 a.m.; Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sandwich lunches will be served at both Farmington and Morse Mill. In the afternoon, several activities are available: A group will be leaving from Farmington at 12:30 p.m. for a walking tour of Elephant Rock State Park and Farmington antique shops. A group will be leaving from Morse Mill Church at 1:00 p.m. to visit the Pevely Flea Market and Wolf Sanctuary.

At 5:00 p.m., everyone is invited to Morse Mill for a barbecue supper followed by a singspiration from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Directions to the churches will be available in the May – June PROGRESS JOURNAL.

Extra rooms are available at the hotel for Saturday and Sunday nights, July 10, and 11, and Thursday, July 15 for those who arrive early and those who wish to stay an extra day at the end of the Conference. The flat rate is \$70.00 for 1 to 6 persons per room.



# Church News

## Baptisms

### Georgia

Morrow (*New Friends Church*) — Corey Wilkes (1/3/99) and Reggie Whibbey (3/7/99) by Pastor Kent Ross.

McDonough (*Cornerstone*) — Becky Jancze (2/21/99) by Pastor David Riley.

### Illinois

Tom and Jan Honeycutt (2/28/99) and Rachel Rowe (3/7/99) by Pastor Michael Hoffman.

### Missouri

Morse Mill — Jill Lee (1/17/99) by Pastor Wade Tierney

### South Carolina

Pelzer (*Bethel Church of God*) — Amber Gokey (12/6/98) and Tasha Benefield (2/21/99) by Pastor Alan Cain.

## Deaths

### Arkansas

McGintytown — Joey Jones, 19, member, (1/11/99) by Pastor Tom New and Pastor Mark Good assisting.

### California

McKinleyville — Thelma Moore, 94, long-time faithful member, (12/18/98).

### Illinois

Oregon — Nora Krau, 93, long-time faithful member, (2/2/99) by Pastors Michael Hoffman and Hollis Partlowe.

Oregon — Jennifer Monczak, 17, (2/14/99) by Pastor Michael Hoffman.

### Indiana

Covington — William C. Poland, 94, long-time faithful member since 1938, (12/29/98) by Pastor Earl Poland.

### Missouri

Fredericktown — Lloyd Thomas, 97, long-time faithful member, (1/17/99) by Pastor Jon T. Welch.

### Ohio

Cleveland — Gladys Beam, member, (12/27/98) by Dave Swartz.

Lawrenceville — Harold Domigan, faithful member, trustee and teacher, (1/22/99) by Pastors John Hearp and Mark Tschaenn; Bonnie Domigan, wife of Harold, faithful member (2/24/99) by Pastor Mark Tschaenn.

Dayton — Russell Young (3/3/99), by Pastor Ralph Childs.

### South Carolina

Pelzer (*Bethel*) — Evelyn Reid, long-time faithful member, (2/17/99) by Pastors Alan Cain and E. Richard Smith.

## Marriages

### Arkansas

McGintytown — Tim McGinty and Natasha Barton (1/16/98) by Pastor Tom New.

### Ohio

Columbia Station — Burt Ambrose and Dorothy Speer (12/5/98) by Pastor Dave Swartz.

## Directory Changes

Pastor Darrell Cardwell

24000 Veterans Road #121

Morton, IL 61550

Fax Number: 309-694-2015 or 309-444-2498

William Wachtel

730 North Emerson, Apt. 13

Wenatchee, WA 98801

Phone# 509-663-2065

Pastor Greg Shaw

4222 East Lincoln Drive

Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

Pastor Jeff Moore can now be reached by e-mail:  
[houslite@wcta.net](mailto:houslite@wcta.net)

Pastor Tom New can now be reached by e-mail:  
[tnew@cyberback.com](mailto:tnew@cyberback.com)

Atlanta Bible College  
Church of God General Conference  
P.O. Box 100,000  
Morrow, GA 30260

Address Correction Requested

U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT 21  
Morrow, Georgia  
Nonprofit Organization



# **79th Annual Summer General Conference**

**July 12-15, 1999**

**Henry VIII Hotel and Convention Center**

**Theme: The Body of Christ:**

**Ephesians 4:1-32**



**Church of God General Conference  
Annual Report  
1998-1999**

**Progress Journal — Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference  
May, June 1999 — Volume 41, Number 4**

# College/Conference Update

## 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

The Church of God General Conference will meet at the Henry VIII Hotel and Conference Center, July 12 – 15 in St. Louis, Missouri. This issue of the Progress Journal contains information about the conference and a report of College/Conference activities during the past year. Additional business information is included which will be discussed by delegates at the Conference. A special invitation is extended to all Church of God members to attend this conference.

### Holy Land Trip

Atlanta Bible College is sponsoring its sixth trip to the Holy Land, February 16 – 23, 2000. ABC staff member Gary and Lori Burnham will be the tour leaders. The cost of the basic 8-day trip to Israel is \$1,399 from New York City. There is an optional pre-extension trip to Petra for \$189 and a post-extension trip to Egypt for \$349. It is a fantastic experience to visit Bible Lands and walk where Jesus walked. Making this journey with Christian friends is an unforgettable experience. Several Atlanta Bible College students will be making this trip and any member of the Church of God is welcome to join the tour. Call 1-800-347-4261 for a brochure.

### Mission Team to Malawi

Lord's Harvest International Church chairperson Judy Myers has announced a short-term mission trip to Malawi, East Africa. Team members are Joe & Rebekah Martin, Jim Mattison, James Cramer, Travis Hamilton, and Paul Madonia. The team will leave from Atlanta on August 2 and return on August 16.

### Mission Trip to Mexico

Lord's Harvest International has approved a short-term trip to Labor Vieja, Mexico June 27 to July 7. The members of this team have not been announced yet.

### Financial Support for Mission Conference

The Board of Directors will underwrite the cost of two individuals from each General Conference church to attend a Mission Conference in Atlanta July 29 – 31. The conference is sponsored by A.C.M.C (Association of Church Missions Committees). This seminar will consist of several general sessions

and a number of workshops on promoting missions in the local church. Atlanta Bible College will provide housing for as many as possible in the apartment building on campus. Brochures have been mailed to Pastors and Mission Committee Chairpersons. Application forms should be sent to the General Conference in order to qualify for a group rate. The deadline for the early bird registration is June 10. The theme of the conference is *Touching the Heart of God*. It is based upon Matthew 24:14 "This Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all nations and then the end will come." And, 2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise . . . He is patient, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

### Bible Quizzing Competition

Since 1960, Church of God young people have been involved in Bible Quizzing Competition. Team members memorize passages of scripture and answer questions in state and national quiz playoffs. Quiz director, Pastor Tom New, has announced that material for the competition this year is Acts 1 – 5. This spring, five teams competed in a second annual quiz tournament in Arkansas. Quiz teams from around the country will compete at this summer's RYOT, July 25 – 30, 1999 at Taylor University, Up-land, Indiana.

### Financial Update

At the end of the first 9 months of the current fiscal year which began July 1, contributions are approximately \$25,000 more than had been contributed last year at this time. However, contributions continue to fall behind the goal for giving for this current fiscal year. A gift of \$10.00 per month from all member families in the Conference, would make it possible for the goal for giving to be reached. We are grateful for those who contribute much more than \$10.00 per month and extend a special invitation to all families to participate in the worldwide ministries of Atlanta Bible College and the General Conference. We also are grateful for churches, state conferences, and groups that consistently send support for the work here.

(continued on page 3)

### Summer Conference Phone Number

The phone number at the Henry VIII Hotel and Conference Center is 1-800-325-1588 and in Missouri it is 1-800-392-1660.

### **Update on April meeting of the Board of Directors**

Among the issues discussed by the Board at the last meeting are:

1. A progress report on the recommendations adopted at the 1998 Summer General Conference. (See the annual report in this issue for more information.)
2. A review of a proposed budget and recommendation which will be presented to the delegates at this summer's conference.
3. Reviewed the annual report and special reports which are printed in this PROGRESS JOURNAL.
4. Adopted revisions for the ABC Catalog for 1999-2000.
5. Voted to pay for two individuals from each church in our Conference to attend a Missions Conference in Atlanta July 29 – 31.
6. Decided to hold the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Conference at Rockford, Illinois July 31 – August 3, 2000.
7. Received a report from the Public Relations Task Force.
8. Discussed filling several positions for the College/Conference staff.
9. Reviewed churches receiving financial aid from the General Conference.
10. Discussed the Partners in Prayer campaign of "Praying the Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."
11. Heard a report from ABC Vice-President Kent Ross regarding the state of the College and the good experiences of the 1998 – 99 school year.

### **Offerings designated for Summer General Conference**

The Board of Directors designated the 1999 Summer Conference offerings to be used to launch a campaign to raise \$200,000 for church planting. Delegates of the 1998 Summer Conference voted to launch this campaign in an effort to increase the resources allocated for outreach and evangelism.

### **ABC/Conference Personnel Changes**

Andy Cisneros who has been serving as Recruitment Coordinator and Apartment Manager will be leaving our staff in May. He has accepted a position as associate pastor at the Guthrie Grove Church in Pelzer, SC. We have appreciated Andy's faithful service.

ABC student Steven Davis has been employed in a part-time position to assist with recruitment.

Merry Peterson who served as receptionist for the College for 3½ years has been serving in a mini-internship at New Friends Bible Church during this semester. Several Church of God families have made funds available to enable seniors in their last semester to work with one of our area pastors while they finish their academic work. We appreciated Merry's many years of service as receptionist. Merry is continuing as coordinator of our Summer Ministries Program.

ABC student Annie Morrison is serving as receptionist during this semester.

Donna Barron serves as secretary to President, David Krogh and Amethyst Burris is secretary to Vice-President, Kent Ross.

Glyn Craig who has served as Maintenance Coordinator for the College since we moved to Atlanta will retire at the end of August. We have appreciated Glyn's faithful service at less than a half-time salary. We would appreciate being contacted by anyone who would be interested in serving in this position.

### **Annual Ministers Conference**

Fifty pastors met on the campus of Atlanta Bible College for the annual Ministers Conference. The pastors elected Dale Ramsey to serve on the Ministerial Association Leadership Team. The team then elected the following officers: Scott Ross, Moderator; Richard Alcumbrack, Secretary; Dale Ramsey, Treasurer. Russell Magaw was reelected as Pastor's Pastor.

The Pastor's also nominated Pastor Mark Tschann for the Christian Education Advisory Committee and Pastor Greg Demmitt for the Board of Directors.

### **Board Nominations Needed**

According to the College/Conference Constitution, for positions on the Board of Directors, nominations cannot be closed with fewer than two nominees for each directorship. Two directors will be elected at this summer's Conference. Two nominations are printed in this issue of the PROGRESS JOURNAL. Therefore, two additional nominees are needed. Please submit names to President David Krogh as soon as possible.

**Sightseeing Options before and after Conference**

1. Drive along the great river route along the Mississippi River
2. Hannibal, Missouri – home of Mark Twain
3. Six Flags over Mid America
4. The Gateway Arch
5. St. Louis Science Center
6. St. Louis Cardinals Hall of Fame Museum
7. Grant’s Farm – Contains a cabin built in 1856 by Ulysses S. Grant on land he once farmed. The 281-acre track contains a Clydesdale Stallion Stable, miniature zoo, a trophy room, carriage collection, animal feeding area, deer park and elephant and bird shows.

For more information contact St. Louis Visitors’ Center 314-241-1764

**Directions to Henry VIII Hotel**

The hotel is located one mile west of Lambert International Airport. The airport is on Interstate 70. From I-70, exit on Lindbergh Boulevard (U.S. 67). Go north one-half mile. The hotel is on the right side of the street.

Lindbergh Blvd. also intersects with Interstate 270. The hotel is about one mile south of I-270. (See map H-3; circle #38)

**Morse Mill Church of God:**

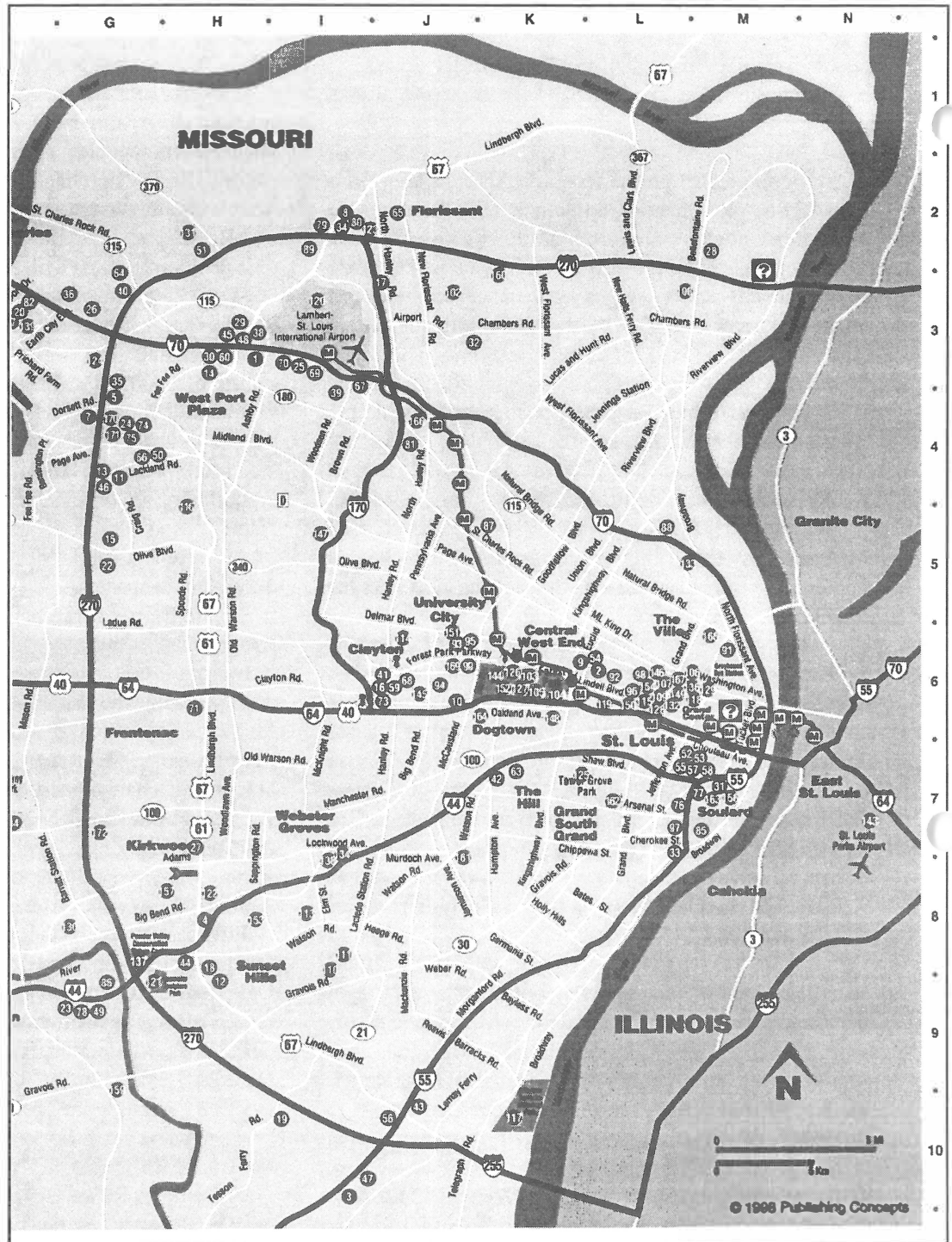
From I-270 in the southwest section of the St. Louis metro area, exit on Route 30, heading south. Travel approximately 24 miles. Go through traffic light at Highway BB, cross bridge over Big River and turn left at the traffic light for Highway B. Travel approximately 6 miles and the church will be on the right at 6991 Highway B. (See map 9G for exit off I-270).

**Farmington Church of God:**

From I-270 on the south side of the St. Louis metro area, take Route 55 south to Route 67. Stay on Route 67 to Farmington. Exit off of Highway 67 on Highway W. Go left or east 3 stop signs to Henry Street, H. Highway. First State Bank is at this corner on the left. Turn right. The church is on the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Henry Street. (See map 10J for exit off I-270 on to I-55)

**Fredericktown Church of God:**

From I-270 on the south side of the St. Louis metro area, take Route 55 south to Route 67. Stay on Route 67, passing Farmington until arriving at the Fredericktown exit. Take exit. At top of ramp, turn left. Continue into Fredericktown to Park Dr. This is 1 block before the Court House. Turn right. Church will be on left at 403 Park Drive.



## MONDAY, JULY 12

- 8:00 Board of Directors' meeting
- 9:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 3:00 Mini Seminar;  
three sightseeing options
- 2:00 Registration
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 Evening Service, "United in a  
Common Faith," Francis Burnett
- 8:30 Welcome Reception – Sponsored  
by Missouri Conference

# Schedule

## 1999 Annual Conference

### July 12-15

*The Body of Christ*  
*Ephesians 4:1-32*

## TUESDAY, JULY 13

- 7:00 Prayer Session
- 7:30 Breakfast
- 8:30 Morning Worship, "Stable  
in the Truth," Jon Cheatwood  
Children's Classes
- 9:30 Coffee Break
- 10:00 Prayer Time  
Youth Classes
- 10:15 Business Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 General Workshops  
Youth Activities
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Priscillas/Ministers Sessions  
Adult Class — George Sheeley,  
teacher
- 3:45 Break
- 4:00 Specialty Workshops
- 5:00 Break
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 Evening Service, "A Loving  
Body"

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

- 7:00 Prayer Session
- 7:30 Breakfast
- 8:30 Morning Worship, "Speaking the  
Truth in Love," Jon Welch  
Children's Classes
- 9:30 Coffee Break
- 10:00 Prayer Time  
Youth Classes
- 10:15 Business Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 General Workshops  
Youth Activities
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Priscillas/Ministers Sessions  
Adult Class — Dale Brown,  
teacher
- 3:45 Break
- 4:00 Specialty Workshops
- 5:00 Break
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 Evening Service, "An Attitude  
of Forgiveness," Scott Ross;  
Communion, Don Ward, Craig  
Wagganer, Mike Montgomery

## THURSDAY, JULY 15

- 7:00 Prayer Session
- 7:30 Breakfast
- 8:30 Morning Worship, "Builders of  
the Body," Wade Tierney  
Children's Classes
- 9:30 Coffee Break
- 10:00 Prayer Time  
Youth Classes
- 10:15 Business Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Check out of hotel

**Recommendation: We recommend that the Church of God General Conference employ a church-planting assistant as soon as a candidate and funding are secured.**

**Explanation:** A part of the College/Conference vision is to encourage and support the starting of new churches. At the 1998 Summer Conference, delegates approved a recommendation to "strengthen the programs and increase the resources allocated for evangelism." One of the proposed actions to be taken was to raise \$200,000 over the next 5 years to help plant new churches.

This recommendation presents a more specific strategy and use of the funds that will be raised. We envision that this assistant will work as a junior partner with an individual who feels called to church planting. The planting project will be a team effort between the General Conference employee and the church-planting pastor. The General

Conference employee will spend from 2 to 3 years helping to plan and launch a new work. The employee will then begin helping another work, and the church planting pastor will carry on the ministry of the new church.

From previous church planting experience, it seems advisable to have two workers who will provide encouragement, support, and accountability in launching a new church. It is also surmised that prospective church planters would be more inclined to start a new church if they knew they would be working with someone who would share the responsibility.

In the lifecycle of churches, we know that churches are started, reach maturity, and some eventually die. From 1965 to 1998, 63 Churches of God closed and 62 new churches were started. There continue to be a multitude of opportunities to start new churches. This recommendation is proposed to help us pursue the Great Commission of making disciples.

## MONDAY, JULY 12

- 8:00 Board of Directors' meeting
- 9:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 3:00 Mini Seminar;  
three sightseeing options
- 2:00 Registration
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 Evening Service, "United in a  
Common Faith," Francis Burnett
- 8:30 Welcome Reception – Sponsored  
by Missouri Conference

# Schedule 1999 Annual Conference July 12-15 *The Body of Christ* *Ephesians 4:1-32*

## TUESDAY, JULY 13

- 7:00 Prayer Session
- 7:30 Breakfast
- 8:30 Morning Worship, "Stable  
in the Truth," Jon Cheatwood  
Children's Classes
- 9:30 Coffee Break
- 10:00 Prayer Time  
Youth Classes
- 10:15 Business Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 General Workshops  
Youth Activities
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Priscillas/Ministers Sessions  
Adult Class — George Sheeley,  
teacher
- 3:45 Break
- 4:00 Specialty Workshops
- 5:00 Break
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 Evening Service, "A Loving  
Body"

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

- 7:00 Prayer Session
- 7:30 Breakfast
- 8:30 Morning Worship, "Speaking the  
Truth in Love," Jon Welch  
Children's Classes
- 9:30 Coffee Break
- 10:00 Prayer Time  
Youth Classes
- 10:15 Business Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 General Workshops  
Youth Activities
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Priscillas/Ministers Sessions  
Adult Class — Dale Brown,  
teacher
- 3:45 Break
- 4:00 Specialty Workshops
- 5:00 Break
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7:00 Evening Service, "An Attitude  
of Forgiveness," Scott Ross;  
Communion, Don Ward, Craig  
Wagganer, Mike Montgomery

## THURSDAY, JULY 15

- 7:00 Prayer Session
- 7:30 Breakfast
- 8:30 Morning Worship, "Builders of  
the Body," Wade Tierney  
Children's Classes
- 9:30 Coffee Break
- 10:00 Prayer Time  
Youth Classes
- 10:15 Business Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Check out of hotel

**Recommendation: We recommend that the Church of God General Conference employ a church-planting assistant as soon as a candidate and funding are secured.**

**Explanation:** A part of the College/Conference vision is to encourage and support the starting of new churches. At the 1998 Summer Conference, delegates approved a recommendation to "strengthen the programs and increase the resources allocated for evangelism." One of the proposed actions to be taken was to raise \$200,000 over the next 5 years to help plant new churches.

This recommendation presents a more specific strategy and use of the funds that will be raised. We envision that this assistant will work as a junior partner with an individual who feels called to church planting. The planting project will be a team effort between the General Conference employee and the church-planting pastor. The General

Conference employee will spend from 2 to 3 years helping to plan and launch a new work. The employee will then begin helping another work, and the church planting pastor will carry on the ministry of the new church.

From previous church planting experience, it seems advisable to have two workers who will provide encouragement, support, and accountability in launching a new church. It is also surmised that prospective church planters would be more inclined to start a new church if they knew they would be working with someone who would share the responsibility.

In the lifecycle of churches, we know that churches are started, reach maturity, and some eventually die. From 1965 to 1998, 63 Churches of God closed and 62 new churches were started. There continue to be a multitude of opportunities to start new churches. This recommendation is proposed to help us pursue the Great Commission of making disciples.

# 1999 General Conference Workshops

**Monday, July 12, 9:00 a.m. – noon; 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** A Pre-Conference Mini Seminar will be offered by Anthony Buzzard. The topic will be “Daniel and Revelation.” This will be an overview of these important prophetic books of the Bible.

**Tuesday, July 13, 1:30 p.m.**

1. How to Lead People to Christ – John Raymond

Every believer can be very effective in leading others to the Lord if they utilize some basic tools and concepts. Come and learn some helpful insights on this much loved, but seldom performed task.

2. Pursuit of God – Jodi Werhanowicz

Knowing God is a matter of life and death and involves our hearts as well as our heads. The goal of this workshop is to help you develop deep, lasting, and intimate relationship with the God of the universe who invites you to know Him this way.

3. Their Faith, Your Faith, Our Faith – James Ritch

A lesson on the progress of faith from creation through the age to come and to show how faith can be our window to eternity.

4. The Church of God Name – Meaning and Importance – Michael Brown

The earlier members and leaders of our General Conference firmly believed that the name “Church of God” is very important according to the scriptures and, therefore, the most proper name for our organization. We will study why these members held this belief and how the Church of God’s name is as relevant today as it was in their day.

5. Leading Serendipity Groups – Chris Seiders

Serendipity means good fortune or luck. . . If you are tired of relying on luck for success with small groups or Bible studies, this is the workshop for you. This session will offer suggestions for adding excitement and pizzazz to your meetings while focusing on the mission of our group.

6. Closing the Backdoor – David Riley

Can we reach them and keep them? How do we stop people from walking in the front door as visitors and leaving out the “back door” never to return? How do we retain members and keep them productive in ministry? Is church growth important to you? Then this may be a workshop for you.

7. Bible Study – Scott Thibault

**Wednesday, July 14, 1:30 p.m.**

1. Purpose Driven Youth Ministry – Seth Ross

How to build a healthy, balanced youth ministry? We’ll talk about God’s five eternal purposes for the church and how they relate to your youth ministry. We’ll discuss how we can intentionally move kids from just attending church to becoming vibrant, valuable, mature members of God’s family.

2. Faith for Today – Gary Turner

The goal of this workshop is to introduce the importance of faith in our church work, our secular work, and our everyday living. Faith is the glue that holds us together in our walk with Christ.

3. The Church as a Servant – Joe Martin

Jesus said, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all” (Mark 9:35). This workshop will review the church as servant and minister to the all, especially the last, least, little, and lost.

4. Christian Education – Gayle Guthrie

“Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue.” Scripture describes the church as the bride of Christ who has “made herself ready” for His coming. This class will draw from the wisdom of the past, innovations for the future, and the wisdom of networking our resources in order to strengthen the Christian Education programs in our churches as

we prepare for the coming of our Savior. As for the “blue” you will have to come and be surprised!

5. Lord’s Harvest International – Judy Myers

Often in our desire to be obedient to the Great Commission, we look for quick and easy solutions. This class will review LHI’s goal of sending trained, spiritually strong individuals to the mission field. It will address how local churches can begin the long process of raising up and training candidates to serve God cross-culturally.

6. How to Minister to Generation X – Russell Magaw

Who is “Generation X?” We’ve heard of the builders, the boomers, and the busters, but who is Generation X? If such a generation exists, what are its trademarks? How old is it? How many of them are there? What is its lifestyle? If we find answers to the above questions, then how do we minister to Generation X? How do you minister to them if you aren’t one of them? What is their view of spirituality?

7. Hymnal Discussion – Dale Ramsey

This workshop is for pastors and church musicians who wish to discuss what to do about producing a Church of God hymnal in the future. Should we reprint our present hymnal; produce a new hymnal? The Board of Directors would like input.

**Tuesday, July 13, 4:00 p.m.**

1. Developing a Church Website – Vivian Kirkpatrick, III

Many churches in our conference have placed information about their church on the World Wide Web. This workshop will provide valuable help for churches that want to know how to proceed with a website.

2. Open session and feedback with Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors will be available to answer questions and hear ideas from conference attendees.

**Wednesday, July 14, 4:00 p.m.**

1. Christian Counseling – Shelly Millard

This workshop will explore the world of Christian Counseling. It will look at the difference between Christian counseling and secular counseling. It will look at different topics a counselor might explore with a client.

2. Lay Speakers Program – Fred Gerullis

The Missouri Conference has an organized lay speaker program to help fill empty pulpits. This session will provide information about their program.

**Special Workshop, American Sign Language/Deaf Culture – Heidi Cooper**

This workshop will meet during all workshop periods beginning Tuesday at 1:30 p.m., including Tuesday 4:00 p.m., Wednesday 1:30 p.m., and Wednesday 4:00 p.m.

This workshop will offer beginning lessons in American Sign Language, as well as a basic understanding of Deaf Culture. Sign language is the third most used language in America today and the primary language used by individuals who are deaf. This workshop will move quickly and have a great deal of information packed into the four class periods with each period building on the previously learned signs. By the end of the fourth class, depending on the motivation of the individual, each person should be able to carry on basic conversations with someone who is deaf, as well as tell them about Christ. The signs for colors, letters, numbers, family members, clothing, and children’s Sunday school songs will be taught as well. This class is taught in a very fun, interactive, and non-threatening environment. Be prepared to participate and have a blast learning!

# ANNUAL REPORT OF ATLANTA BIBLE COLLEGE/ CHURCH OF GOD GENERAL CONFERENCE

The past year has seen significant progress in the implementation of recommendations adopted by delegates at the 1998 Summer Conference. This annual report will review the steps that have been taken during this year to carry out the delegate's wishes and also summarize the ongoing activities of Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference.

**Recommendations #1 and #2** – The Constitution is being reprinted with the revised purpose statement of the Church of God General Conference and the revised preamble to the Constitution.

**Recommendation #3** – “Study and identify ways in which the Church of God can improve public relations with members and with those outside the church to better foster a distinct identity and increase the visibility of Church of God distinctives to those outside its membership.”

Several proposed action steps have been accomplished:

1. A one-year task force was appointed by the Board of Directors consisting of: Charles Bottolfs, Chairman; Dale Brown, Frank Johnson, Joyce Knapp, and David Scheiding. The task force has met on the campus of Atlanta Bible College twice and they made a presentation to the Board of Directors at their April meeting and the Ministerial Association the end of April.

2. Last September, a meeting of ABC students and staff was held to discuss ways in which the College/Conference could enhance its image and identity through worship teams, recruiting, discussions with local churches, communications, college activities, etc. Many excellent ideas were offered. A follow-up discussion was held by the College/Conference staff.

**Recommendation #4** – “Expand the current ABC program of study to include a Distance Learning Program that will provide education for lay ministers and local church leadership.”

During the current school year, the ABC staff has experimented with new formats and resources in the delivery of classes. CD-ROM resources may be available to supplement distance learning courses. Staff computers have been upgraded which will provide appropriate technology for the development of courses to be delivered over the Internet.

During the 1999 – 2000 school year, ABC instructors will be delivering courses in other locations around the country in a weekend learning format. Courses will be available for academic credit or as continuing education credit.

The Higher Education Advisory Committee met in February to assist the staff in the development of the college program.

**Recommendation #5** – “Study and identify ways to improve the Atlanta Bible College program with the intention of achieving

excellence and meeting accreditation standards within the next five years.”

The Higher Education Advisory Committee is working on several projects to continue to improve the quality of the Bible College program.

In October, application was made to the Accrediting Commission International for accreditation of Atlanta Bible College. An onsite visit was made in November and on December 19, Atlanta Bible College received accreditation from the Commission. This recognition and approval from an external organization provides added support to our recruitment efforts.

**Recommendation #6** – “Strengthen the programs and increase the resources allocated for youth work in the Church of God.”

We have been seeking applications for a full-time Youth/Recruitment Coordinator. Pastor Jim Graham who has served as youth coordinator for nine years will conclude his work this summer.

The Board of Directors has authorized funding to pay tuition expenses for a youth worker and spouse from each church and conference to attend a Youth Specialties Convention during 1999. In addition to tuition, \$100 per couple will be given to help with the cost of meals. It is hoped that the local church will help with the cost of travel and lodging.

**Recommendation #7** – “Further integrate the use of technology in the work of the College and Conference.”

A new computer system has been installed in the offices of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference. The system is Y2K compliant. This new system is being used to preserve material in the college archives. Malcolm McLeod and Mike Moyer spent time on campus as volunteers to help scan *Restitution Herald*s.

In October, Pastor Steve Taylor was hired as a part-time technology coordinator with the College/Conference. He has been working on promotional videos for the College, a video magazine that will report on activities in our churches, and, a promotional video of the Quiz Program at last year's RYOT.

**Recommendation #8** – “Strengthen the programs and increase the resources allocated for evangelism.”

We have been seeking applications for a full-time Spiritual Life/Evangelism Coordinator.

Pastor Jack Hearp was appointed, last August as a Senior Ministries Coordinator in a volunteer capacity. Each church has been encouraged to appoint a Senior Ministries Coordinator. A quarterly newsletter is sent to pastors, secretaries, and Senior Ministries Coordinators. With the aging of the population, there are many opportunities for ministry in this area.



The membership has been informed of our plan to raise \$200,000 over the next 5 years to help start new churches. The membership has been invited to contribute to this Church Planting fund. We are currently looking for 400 families or groups that would be willing to give \$500 during the next 5 years (\$100 per year) to help start new churches.

A proposal to enhance our Church Planting efforts is being review by the Board of Directors.

**Recommendation #9** – “Provide publications that can best enable the Church of God to fulfill the Great Commission.”

Bill and Mardy Lawrence, at their expense, published and distributed to the membership last fall an evangelism booklet that offers suggestions on how to share Christ with others.

The Christian Education Advisory Committee has met to prioritize publishing projects.

Bob See is in the process of scanning on to a computer all Church of God adult quarterlies that have been published during the past 73 years. This project will permit us to print out comments on all the Bible verses that have appeared in the quarterly over the years.

**Recommendation # 10** – “By the year 2000, secure 1000 active members of the Church Builders League.”

A number of inactive members of the Church Builders have reactivated their membership and there are currently 527 active members. We are inviting each church to appoint a Church Builders Coordinator. The coordinator will receive a list of current members of the League for their church along with brochures, which can be used to encourage new members.

## Vision

In addition to the recommendations adopted by the delegates, the work of the College/Conference continues to be driven by our vision to:

1. Provide quality Christian education for workers/leaders through ABC.
2. Offer assistance to start new churches.
3. Help strengthen each existing church and support pastors.
4. Faithfully proclaim the distinctive message of the Church of God to the public at large.

We continue to believe that this vision is very much in tune with the heart of God as revealed in scripture:

1. Church leaders are appointed by God to equip God’s people for ministry (Ephesians 4:11, 12). Jesus modeled a training program when he equipped his disciples to be church leaders (Mark 3:14).
2. The church is essential to God’s plan. Jesus founded the church (Matthew 16:18); He is the head of the church (Colossians 1:18); His commission for us is to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20); the message is to be spread throughout the earth (Acts 1:8).
3. Each church is to be built up, unified in the faith, and made like Christ (Ephesians 4:13); the church is to grow (Acts 2:47; 4 or; 6:7, etc.).

4. Bible truth is essential. Truth is revealed in the Word (John 17:17); Jesus is truth (John 14:6); God wants all men to come to a knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4).

As the work of our organization is carried on, we are guided by these Biblical imperatives.

## Mission

Furthermore, we continue to recognize that our mission is to make disciples by bringing the lost to Jesus Christ and leading believers to maturity (Matt. 28:19 and 20). We recognize that this must be the focus of our work.

In reviewing the work of the past 12 months, the College/Conference has served you, our constituency, in the following ways:

## COLLEGIATE SERVICES

Enrollment at Atlanta Bible College increased from last year. This year a total of 28 students were enrolled for one or more classes.

The school year began with a two-day retreat and orientation at the Timber Ridge Conference Center on the West Side of Atlanta.

A highlight of the school year was the accreditation of the college by the Accrediting Commission International in December.

Instructor, Joe Martin, completed his Doctoral Program at Columbia Theological Seminary and was granted his degree in April.

The college hosted several guests during the school year. Pastor Ray Hall of the Garden Park Church in Kentwood, Michigan represented the Ministerial Association as campus chaplain in October. Judy Myers representing the Lord’s Harvest International Mission Board was on campus in February. Other members of the Mission Board were also present: Pastor Vivian Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Mardy Lawrence, Pastor Warren Sorenson, and Pastor Dale Swartz. Two task forces appointed by the Board of Directors also met on campus: Organizational Task Force: Norman Chandler, Donna Deane, Larry Johnson, Tim Jones, and Jim Ring; Public Relations Task Force: Charles Bottolfs, Dale Brown, Frank Johnson, Joyce Knapp, and David Scheiding.

The Board of Directors also met on campus in October, January, and April. The Higher Education Advisory Committee met in February. Members are: Kent Ross, Chairperson; Dr. Donna Deane, Pastor Scott Deane, and Dr. John Guthrie.

The Annual College Invitational Conference was held March 5 – 7. Forty-four prospective students and sponsors participated in the weekend activities. The theme was “How to Maintain Morals in a World That Has None.”

## PASTOR/CHURCH SERVICES

The College/Conference provides services to strengthen and assist local churches and to facilitate the starting of new churches. Services were offered in the following areas:

## Christian Education

During the past year, the major work of the Christian Education Advisory Committee was preparing materials for the Doctrinal

Distinctive quarterlies which were published for the winter quarter. A new quarterly was designed, written and edited for the preschool age. Our belief is that important foundations for understanding the truths of scripture begin in early childhood. Each of the other quarterlies was edited and improved by adding more active learning experiences to complement the lessons. An attempt was made to improve the appearance of the Teacher's Guides and make them conform to the format of the present David C. Cook material for an easier transition from their material to ours and back. An evaluation form was prepared and mailed to each local church to have teachers comment on the distinctive lessons. They are presently being compiled and will be discussed by the committee. Our hope is that they will provide valuable insights into the direction we should take in improving these materials for future publication.

Other work of the committee has included the mailing of ideas to be added to the Keys notebook that is an accumulation of a variety of Christian Education resources. A workshop on a Christian Education topic is also being planned for the 1999 Summer General Conference in St. Louis. There are a number of projects resulting from the task force meetings that are being addressed by the Christian Education Advisory Committee.

#### Media

*The Restitution Herald* is in its 88<sup>th</sup> year of publication. Pastor Jeff Fletcher serves as editor. The current circulation is 853. Several churches are ordering bulk subscriptions at a lower cost and distributing them to the members of their church. Other churches are encouraged to consider this method of distributing the *Herald*.

The *Journal from the Radical Reformation* is published four times each year. The current circulation is 316. Anthony Buzzard and Kent Ross serve as Senior Editors and Scott Deane, Greg Demmitt, and Jeff Fletcher serve as Associate Editors.

#### Missions

During the past year, Judy Myers, Chairperson of the Lord's Harvest International Board has spoken to several ladies groups and churches. She has written the mission edition of the Church of God Around the World and "March"ing for Missions calendar for the month of March; assisted with bulletin board material regarding the Russia trip last summer; published the Russia Newsletter provided by Tracy; sent periodic mission newsletters to mission committee chairpersons and pastors; provided photos of mission work to various churches and supplied ideas and information upon request.

The Lord's Harvest International Board met during General Conference and reviewed the work in Russia. A decision was made to bring Tracy to the U.S. for deputation in the summer of 1999. A summer trip to Malawi in 1999 was approved. Also, LHI approved a summer trip to Mexico this year after the Badillos requested a team.

LHI met February 5 and 6 in Atlanta. Time was spent meeting with Tracy who was in the U.S. to be married. Her husband Stepan was baptized by Joe Martin while they were here. Additional planning on both the Malawi trip and the Mexico trip along with choosing the Malawi team took place. The Mexico team will be

selected after applications are received. We also reviewed information on a group of pastors from Ghana who have requested affiliation with the General Conference.

Judy Myers, spent February 4 – 9 on campus at ABC as a representative of LHI. During that time interviews were held with several students who expressed an interest in missions.

Judy continues to maintain contact with several who have indicated an interest in missions. There is regular contact by e-mail and telephone with Tracy in Russia.

She maintains regular contact with Jim Mattison, our Malawi liaison. She receives periodic reports from Peru and other parts of the world. She reads mission books and magazines to better understand the field of missions. Two valuable mission magazines have been helpful: *Russian Life* which provides a good understanding of Russia and *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* provides information on methods that are working and those that no longer seem to be effective.

Currently preparations are being made for summer trips. Judy Myers will be a part of the Mexico trip and will put together information packets for all participants on Malawi. The packet will include a history of the work, cultural things that team members need to be aware of, basic words or sentences, dress codes, etc.

A mission workshop will be offered at the summer General Conference.

#### Senior Ministries

Jack Hearp was appointed last fall as coordinator for the Senior Ministries program of the General Conference. Our goal is to both encourage ministry to seniors, and also to assist them in finding various areas of ministry and outreach to others. The past three years Jack has served on the chaplaincy staff at the over four hundred bed Ohio Masonic Home which has been most helpful in providing insights into various areas of ministry to Seniors.

A quarterly publication is presently being sent to the Senior Ministry Coordinator, Pastor and Secretary of each church. It offers suggestions for organizing a Seniors program, and suggested activities and ideas that have been sent from coordinators at various churches.

The Senior Ministry Coordinator attended two very helpful seminars. They were, "Spirituality of Aging: Ministering with and to Older Adults," and "Churches Riding the Age Wave." Ideas gleaned from them will appear in future publications. The interest being shown, and diversity of people in attendance at these seminars indicates that we are on the 'cutting edge' of a ministry that has great potential!

In reading the valuable book, "Catch the Age Wave" by Win and Charles Arn some eye-opening facts jump off the pages: "The 55+ age group in America is growing three times faster than the national average." "Many unchurched senior adults will not be reached by existing ministries in today's churches." "Only 10 of every 100 young people stay in the same community in which they grow up." By way of contrast, most senior adults, age 55 and up are 'there to stay'. Their prayer ministry, experience and willingness to serve are an invaluable resource to the local church. Your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions may be sent to the Senior Ministries Coordinator.

## Technology

This year saw major advances in the area of technology. Pastor Steve Taylor was employed last October as a part time Technology Coordinator. Our media work now includes both cablecast programming as well as numerous non-broadcast projects.

During the year cablecast programs were produced for the Lafayette, Indiana area, and the Lawrenceville Church of God in Ohio. Churches have also indicated an interest in cablecasting, including Timberland, South Bend, IN where programming will begin in April. We have an interested individual in the Detroit, Michigan area and cablecasts should be starting there soon.

During this year, our equipment has been modified so that full-color computer graphics can now be imported over any video source. We also purchased two digital video camcorders for use in productions. The quality improvement is considerable. These units will serve us well since these camcorders will interface with computer editing equipment and will also adapt to HDTV - the new television standard that is expected to replace today's television standard within 7 years. We also purchased a multimedia computer which will allow video work to be done directly through it.

The majority of our efforts are being put into non-broadcast video productions. Our highest priority was to complete and distribute 2 ABC promotional videos - one geared for prospective students, and one geared for parents. Additionally, work has been completed on the first Church of God Video Magazine. A youth quizzing promo video was also produced and distributed.

The Technology Coordinator has visited several churches to videotape segments for use in productions.

Special thanks to Andy VanBuren and Bill Wyatt for their volunteer assistance with the work in video production in Lafayette. They have devoted many hours and much creativity to our video efforts. Also, thanks to Justin Taylor for the many hours of work that he has put into developing the Today's Good News Television Internet website. Also, thanks to those who have been generous in their financial support of this area of our ministry.

## Youth

The 1998 RYOT was a tremendous success. There were 308 students, youth workers, guests, and staff present. Ten students made a decision to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Two students were baptized. The Louisiana Quiz Team was the 1998 quiz champion. Illinois was the runner up.

We have appreciated the nine years that Jim Graham has served as the Youth Coordinator for the Church of God General Conference. In light of our decision to appoint a full time ABC Recruitment/Youth Coordinator, Jim will conclude his service during the summer of 1999. Jim plans to continue to be active in youth work while pursuing a Master of Theology Degree at Fuller Theological Seminary. He also will continue as pastor of the Valley View Bible Church.

Tom New serves as coordinator for the Bible Quizzing Program. The quiz material for this year is taken from Acts 1 - 5. A Bible quiz video was distributed to Youth Leaders.

In order to provide support for youth ministry in the Church of God, the General Conference will pay the tuition expenses for a local youth worker and spouse to attend a Youth Specialties Convention in 1999. In addition to the tuition, \$100.00 per couple will be given to help with the cost of meals. State/Regional

Conference Youth Workers and their spouses are also eligible to attend. It is hoped that local churches will assist with the cost of travel and lodging. The National Youth Workers Conventions will be held in San Diego, October 21 - 25, and in Cincinnati, November 18 - 22.

## BUSINESS

This year the computer system at the College/Conference was upgraded. The building was recabled for both phone and data lines. Our hardware was replaced and most software has been upgraded or replaced. The balance of our software replacement will take place over the next few months. At that point, the system will be fully 2000 compliant; Y2K issues should not affect any of our internal operations.

The staff now has simultaneous high-speed connection to the Internet. It also allows all e-mail messages to be read immediately upon being received; a 'pop-up' message tells each person the moment they have received new mail.

Recently we have redesigned our web site to make it both more attractive and more user friendly. Please be sure to visit our web site at [www.abc-coggc.org](http://www.abc-coggc.org). A visitor to this site can learn about the college and conference, see some publications on-line, and get registration information for Christian Worker's Seminar, General Conference, Atlanta Bible College, etc. If you have comments or ideas regarding our web site you may call us or e-mail us at [info@abc-coggc.org](mailto:info@abc-coggc.org).

As the old system has been disassembled, we are providing local computer stations to pastors and churches who have never had a computer before. Several more pastors and churches will now be able to access e-mail and the Internet.

As a result of upgrades we've done, we have a technologically advanced system that will help us more effectively and efficiently serve the needs of Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference.

A credit card account has been established which will permit the use of Visa and MasterCard for ordering books, paying registration fees for General Conference, Christian Workers Seminar, RYOT, and fees to ABC.

## Finances

Fifty-eight of the 86 churches that are members of our association of churches contributed to the General Operations Goal for Giving in 1998. The Board of Directors would like to invite all churches to participate in the support of the College/Conference. We appreciate the faithfulness of each church that contributes a portion of their income to support this work.

We are also grateful to the 531 individuals and families who also contributed during 1998. We also appreciate support from state/district conferences and groups.

At this point in the fiscal year, contributions to the Goal for Giving are approximately 11% more than last year at this time. However, contributions are about \$50,000 less than the Goal for Giving for this fiscal year. Part of the short fall has been made up by increased revenue from a larger enrollment at Atlanta Bible College, and from bequests that have been received during the year; expenses have also been reduced.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Christian Workers Seminar held in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee in April 1998 was the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar. The attendance of 181 was the largest ever. The previous high attendance was 154. Kent Ross is Seminar Coordinator.

Summer Ministry Teams conducted Bible schools and assisted various churches during the summer of 1998. Merry Peterson and Sarah Buzzard were Summer Ministry Coordinators. Teams assisted at the following churches: North Hills, OH; Pennellwood, MI; Blanchard, MI; Minnesota Camp; New Friends, GA; Cool Spring, VA; Hedrick, IN; Wenatchee Washington Camp; Farmington, MO; East Oregon, IL; and children's classes at the Summer General Conference.

A new church was started in Sharpsburg, Georgia which is approximately 40 miles from the Atlanta Bible College campus. Pastor Dan Kennedy and a core of Church of God members including some ABC students have participated in the planting.

Financial Aid has been given to several churches during this year through our Church Development Aid Program. The following churches have received aid during 1998 - 99: Beloit New Life, WI; Cornerstone, GA; Blessed Hope, Rockford, IL; Farmington, MO; Winnebago, IL; Sharpsburg, GA; Troy View, OH. Church Planting Aid has been provided to the following churches during this year: Cornerstone, GA; Farmington, MO; Winnebago, IL; and Sharpsburg, GA. Both aid programs are on a schedule of payments that decline at the end of each year. Church Development Aid is spread over five years and Church Planting Aid is spread over four years.

## Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation

The Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation is a separate corporation from Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference and it is governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of 13 individuals. The purpose of the foundation is to "Promote the educational and cultural welfare of the college... and to develop, expand, and improve the college facility so as to provide broader educational advantages and opportunities, to encourage research and increase the college's usefulness to the members of the Church of God General Conference." The Foundation has over \$1,200,000 in investments. Over the past several years, the investments have earned about 12% per year.

Each year, the Trustees of the Development Foundation meet to: review investments, review recommendations from the College for the use of funds, act upon spending requests, and elect officers.

During the 1998 - 99 school year, interest earnings have been allocated as follows:

\$30,000	Basic Grants for Students
\$ 5,000	Library Books and Equipment
\$ 3,000	Library Periodicals
\$ 5,000	Holy Land Grants
\$ 5,000	Computer Grants (pays rent for computers for ABC/Clayton students)
\$ 2,500	Staff Training
\$ 2,500	Periodicals, Books, and Dues for Staff

## Conclusion

During this year, the membership of the Church of God has been invited to participate in a special prayer emphasis entitled "Praying the Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." We live on the brink of a new decade, century, and millenium. Within our membership there are many who are sensing a need for us to focus more on prayer. We recognize that we have many opportunities and challenges to face as we carry on ministry in our times. There is strength in numbers and there is power when we are united in prayer. We continue to encourage all of the membership to be partners in prayer with other Church of God members.

We are thankful for the many pastors and lay workers who serve the Lord throughout the Church of God. We are thankful for individual initiative and the commitment of so many in advancing the cause of the kingdom.

We continue to be grateful to God for the resources that he provides to enable us to continue our work. Day by day, we are dependent upon him to provide for our financial needs. He has worked through many of you and your churches to advance the ministry of the Church of God.

As our entire association of churches focuses upon obedience to the Great Commission, we are optimistic that the Church of God can have a greater impact in our world.

(This report was prepared by President David Krogh and members of the staff. It was reviewed by the Board of Directors at their meeting April 8 - 10. It is presented to the membership of the Church of God for your review.)

# SPECIAL REPORTS

\$ 1,000	Program Development
\$ 2,000	Clayton College General Education Grants
\$ 3,000	Vehicle Replacement
\$10,000	Recruitment
\$ 2,000	General Conference and Christian Workers Seminar Grants
\$ 2,000	Operating Expenses for Foundation
<u>\$ 7,000</u>	Added to Foundation Principle
\$80,000	Total allocation

The Trustees of the Foundation are: Mr. Charles Bottolfs, President; Mrs. Wanda Gerullis, Vice-President; Pastor David Cheatwood, Secretary; Mr. Robert Huddlestun, Treasurer; and Directors; Mr. Lynn Berry, Pastor Greg Demmitt, Pastor Scott Deane, Mr. Paul Duncan, Mr. Jim Hamilton, Mr. Rob Helenburg, Mr. Joe James, Dr. William Lawrence, and Pastor Dale Swartz.

## Ministerial Recognition Board

The Ministerial Recognition Board is viewed by those who serve on it as challenging and very rewarding. Closely observing and interacting with people who are in various stages of preparing their lives for ministry awakens our own spiritual passion and call to ministry. This is both exhilarating and inspiring. God has certainly blessed the Church of God with a rich heritage of Bible truth that spontaneously lifts us as we see people with vision and a call embrace the urgency of maintaining and propagating it.

As Board Chairman, I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to MRB members Kent Ross, John Railton, and

Secretary of the Board, Charles Bottolfs, for their commitment to this task.

The Ministerial Recognition Board is responsible for granting ministerial recognition to those seeking license from the Church of God General Conference. In addition, this Board is responsible for maintaining the integrity and good standing of those licensed, monitor the Continuing Education Units required to maintain ministry license, maintain a pastoral record for each minister, and oversee and placement of Mentors for newly licensed ministers. We continually work on policies and procedures for accomplishing each of these duties.

This Board met three times through the course of the year, prior to General Conference in November, and prior to Ministers Conference. There have also been numerous telephone conferences to conduct on going business.

This year the Board established standard questions for the interview processes; a tool for ensuring consistency that is still versatile and complete.

Those now involved in the mentor program include the following:

<i>Mentorees</i>	<i>Mentors</i>
Michael Cisler	Michael Hoffman
Seth Ross	Craig Waggoner
Chris Seiders	Ray Hall
Tim Spickler	John Railton
John Raymond	Scott Ross
Frank Toth	Rex Cain
John Nelson	Michael Hoffman and Gail Tuttle

Mark Tschaenn received a permanent license this year.

—Ray Hall, Chairman

#### **Christian Conciliation Board**

The Christian Conciliation Board is available to assist and consult with church congregations and local church leadership where conciliation efforts are needed in order to further the Lord's work. It is the desire of the Conciliation Board that involvement be preventive through early consultation and education. Also, the earlier potential problems are identified and resolved, the better the prognosis for healing and moving on in effective ministry of the church.

During the past year the Conciliation Board members have consulted with several churches by phone or visits. Consultation has been provided to several pastors and church officials where visits were not necessary. Board members also taught at Christian Workers' Seminar and participated at Minister's Conference. Churches or church leadership may contact the following for services of the Christian Conciliation Board: Joe E. James, Michael Hoffman, Michele Millard, or General Conference President David Krogh.

— Joe James, Chairman

#### **Church of God Investment Fund**

The Church of God Investment Fund is a separate corporation from Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference. The Fund exists to make loans to churches for purchasing property, remodeling, constructing buildings, purchasing parsonages, etc. The Fund Balance is currently \$81,000. The Fund grows modestly each year from interest charged on loans. There are 4 churches that have outstanding loans.

The Trustees of the Fund are: Mr. Clarence Jones, Mr. Robert Smith, Mrs. Terri Tschaenn, Mr. Joe James, and Mr. David Krogh.

— David Krogh, Secretary

#### **Focus on the Kingdom**

Focus on the Kingdom radio program has now been airing for some three years. We expanded in 1998 into short-wave out of South Bend, IN, broadcasting at the same time over the local area. A number of visitors came to Timberland as a result of the contact via radio.

In 1999 American Christian Network began airing our programs over four stations in the Spokane, WA area. At the same time, WLQV began to feature the program with large coverage in Detroit, MI. We are completing a year's programming in Augusta, GA and WFAX in Washington, DC has been giving coverage thanks to support from the COG at Fair Oaks, VA.

Our monthly magazine now goes to some 800 people across the world, including isolated believers in a number of African countries. Plans are that we should create another year of programming, perhaps more in the format of commentary verse by verse with close attention to the Abrahamic Faith. Most recently, some stir was caused in South Bend and a number of clergy lobbied WHME with the protest that I was not a Trinitarian (they had visited our website). This led to a sudden cancellation of the local and shortwave/internet coverage. This was a surprise to our agents who were apologetic and supportive, even reminding us that "New Testament Christians were sometimes persecuted."

Investigation is underway for another outlet for short-wave/internet so that our foreign listeners will not be denied access to Abrahamic truth of the Gospel. Responses continue to be enthusiastic. One lady in New Jersey phoned to tell me she was "in a state of shock. We have been taught wrong on some of the basic Christian teachings." She immediately began to lobby her own Church and the Pastor is trying to warn her to avoid contact with us! It is hard to believe that the Gospel of the Kingdom would create opposition, but it does – and from churches!

Our thanks to our very generous donors who have made this outreach possible on a scale we never imagined.

—Anthony Buzzard

#### **Ministers Voluntary Retirement Association**

This association, in existence since 1968, provides retirement benefits for Church of God pastors and employees of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference and their families.

Membership consists of 30 participating pastors/staff members and 3 non-participating pastors/staff. There are 38 churches and 7 conferences that contribute to the Association.

Lump sum settlements have been distributed to 33 pastors/spouses. Monthly benefits are being distributed to 3 pastors and 9 spouses. \$627,000 has been distributed in lump sum settlements and monthly benefits since the inception of the program.

The members of the Association meet every other year at the Summer General Conference to review the work of the Association and to take appropriate action.

The Trustees of the Association are: Gary Burnham, Chairman; Bill Gaspar, Vice-Chairman; and David Krogh, Secretary/Treasurer.

—David Krogh

# NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Charles G. Bottolfs

Charles was born on November 8, 1937 in Hammond, Louisiana. He is a lifelong member of the Happywoods Church of God. He has been married to his wife, Sylvia, for 39 years and has three children, all members of the Happywoods Church.

He has a lifetime of experience in Church leadership. He is currently serving his 34<sup>th</sup> year as an Elder and member of the Happywoods Church Executive Board, having served several terms as Board Chairman. He has also served on the Board of the Louisiana State Conference. He is a dedicated worker within the church serving in many ways including: teacher of an adult Sunday School class, member of the worship ministry team, and liturgist (worship leader). He is a true servant of God.

Charles currently serves the Church of God General Conference as a member of the License and Ordination Board and he is Chairman of the Public Relations Task Force. He is also President of the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation.

In addition to his work in the Church, he has an outstanding record of civic leadership within the community:

- Board of Directors of the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce (3 years).
- Past Chairman of the River Parishes Chamber of Commerce.
- La Place Rotary Board of Directors.
- Member of Southeastern Louisiana University I.T. Advisory Committee (6 years).
- Member of River Parishes Education Initiatives & Co Chairperson.
- Member of Louisiana Chemical Assn. Public Relations Committee and LA Chemical Association.

In 1994, he retired from his position as Manager of Community Relations for the E.I. du Pont Corporation, La Place, LA. He is currently self-employed and operates a consulting service.

The Happywoods Church of God knows that Charles is a man of integrity, has excellent knowledge of God's word, and possesses a tremendous commitment to the growth of the Church. He has the kind of servant leadership skills that will be a tremendous asset to the Church of God General Conference Board of Directors.

Charles believes that the General Conference and Atlanta Bible College exist to the churches of the General Conference by providing services and pastor/leaders for the future growth of all of our churches and Conferences. The essence of this philosophy is "Doing together what we cannot do alone."

He believes that the General Conference serves as a focal point for all inquiries not directed to a specific church and provides general direction to churches in matters of church growth, pastoral care, church management (i.e. guidelines for church treasurers, secretaries, etc.), evangelism, pastoral relations, benefits and other items of common interest in churches.

He believes that Atlanta Bible College should be providing future leaders, pastors. Also it should provide a Christian education in a variety of fields when and if possible, so our young men and women would desire to attend the institution when they complete high school rather than choosing a non-sectarian institution.

The Conference exists to serve the churches and members throughout the world. It should provide a focal point for questions and the collective efforts of the churches. It provides a vehicle where those outside our body may look for one voice relating to our doctrines and overall directions.

Currently the College exists to train leaders and pastors for the Church of God General Conference. These people should provide leadership in the various churches and in the General Conference administration as well.

What he would like to accomplish if elected: provide a sense of clarity about the mission of the General Conference and Atlanta Bible College among our members and their churches. Second, he would like to provide a viable method of achieving the goals established by the Board of Directors and attain them.

— *Happy Woods Church of God*

## Greg Demmitt

### Professional experience

#### Pastor:

Lakeshore Bible Church, October, 1992-present  
Happywoods Church of God, Sept. 1986-Oct. , 1992  
Country Chapel Church of God, Sept., 1980 - Aug., 1986  
Associate Pastor, youth minister:  
Valley View Bible Church (then called the Bible Church of God), Sept. 1979-Aug. 1980

#### Internship:

Valley View Bible Church, Sept. 1978-June, 1979  
1978 graduate of Oregon Bible College

Staff of R.Y.O.T., National Youth Congress: 1975-1997  
Quizzing director, 1984-88, 1997  
co-editor, *Challenge Magazine*, 1987-90

*Adult Truth Seekers Quarterly* editor, 1988-89  
contributing writer to adult quarterly, 1981-1997  
(Please see the next page for completion of nomination.)

# NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTINUED

Since April, 1998 I've also been a special projects coordinator for Thomson Newspapers, overseeing the implementation of a multi-million dollar advertising study throughout that corporation.

**Personal information:**

Married Karen Demmitt, Aug. 18, 1979  
Children, Daniel, Allison, Michael  
Baptized into Christ in July, 1970, becoming a member of the Troy View Church of God.

I've had what I consider to be a life-long experience with the Church of God General Conference. My family's involvement extends back to my great-great-grandparents on both my father's and mother's side of the family. Both of my grandfathers and my father have served the General Conference in many capacities and two of my brothers have also been pastors in the Church of God. The work of the church and conference have often been a major topic of conversation and interest throughout my life in my family.

As a pastor in the Church of God, I've sought to help my congregations mature in Christ while faithfully proclaiming the word of God. I value my heritage and have sought on many occasions to broaden its audience.

I treasure my experiences at National Berean Youth Camp during my youth and passionately desire that the youth work of the Church of God remain a vital force. If elected to the board of directors, I will be available for additional work in that area to see that the program continues to grow as we continue to seek for someone who can fill a professional youth ministry position with the General Conference.

As a 1978 graduate of Oregon Bible College, I've had a great deal of interest in that institution for many years. I see a real need to retool the way that we train people for ministry. We must find ways to attract adults into professional ministry. Most people are in a different profession at age 30 than that for which they prepared in college. To focus on high school students as the target market for ABC is to focus on a group that is unlikely to make ministry a career. To attract adults into professional ministry we will need to make the education both accessible and practical.

I think we need to give high priority to Atlanta Bible College. We need someone on staff for whom ABC is their only area of responsible. We have qualified people on staff, but I think that their priorities are too diverse. We must free one leadership position to focus solely on ABC.

I earnestly desire to serve on the Board of Directors. I want the Church of God General Conference to be effective in its mission. I'm willing to deal realistically with the current picture and to take initiative in seeking positive change.

— Ministerial Association, and Lakeshore Bible Church

PROPOSEDBUDGET: July 1, 2000— June 30, 2001  
Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference

**ANTICIPATED EXPENSES:**

**STAFF:**

Salaries and Wages .....	\$417,000
Social Security .....	\$9,800
Employee Benefits .....	\$35,400

**SERVICES:**

Assist to Churches .....	\$37,310
Ministerial Assoc. ....	\$6,000
Youth Ministry .....	\$5,000

**SALESEXPENSES:**

Printing and Binding .....	\$55,000
Postage .....	\$21,000
Purchases – Bookstore .....	\$9,000
Purchases – Cook Material .....	\$13,000
Royalties .....	\$800

**ABC:**

Basic Grants .....	\$30,000
Clayton Rebates .....	\$2,000
Advertising-Recruitment .....	\$3,000
Library Periodicals .....	\$3,000
Library Books .....	\$3,000
Period., Books, Dues .....	\$3,000
Staff Education .....	\$2,500
Program Development .....	\$1,000

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Travel .....	\$32,250
Motor Vehicle Exp. ....	\$5,000
Office Supplies and Expense .....	\$7,000
Professional Services .....	\$3,200
Telephone .....	\$14,000
Insurance – non-plant .....	\$1,500
Supplies and Expense .....	\$11,000
Repairs/Maintenance – non-plant .....	\$5,000

**PLANT EXPENSES:**

Utilities .....	\$23,000
Property Insurance .....	\$7,000
Repairs and Maint. ....	\$5,000
Furniture and Equipment .....	\$8,000
Supplies and Expense .....	\$3,500

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Other .....	\$3,700
Contingency .....	\$20,000
Vehicle Replacement .....	\$3,000

**TOTAL .....** \$808,960

**ANTICIPATED INCOME:**

**SALES:**

S.S. Material .....	\$49,000
Books, Tracts .....	\$14,000
Subscriptions .....	\$8,500

**ABC:**

Tuition .....	\$110,000
Housing .....	\$32,000
Laundry .....	\$1,400
Late Fees/Rent .....	\$1,500
Fees .....	\$1,500

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

ABCDF Interest .....	\$69,500
Interest .....	\$1,000
Other .....	\$1,500
Transfers In .....	\$12,000
Bequest Distribution .....	\$4,900
Transfer from Morgan Fund .....	\$90,000

**TOTAL EARNED INCOME .....** \$396,800

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED**  
July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001 .....

Contributions needed for 99-00 .....

## Explanation of Budget

The proposed budget for July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001 will fund the following programs and activities of the College/Conference in accordance with our mission.

### Anticipated Expenses

1. Salaries and Wages - compensation is provided for 25 employees (6 part-time editors, 3 part-time coordinators, 2 part time student workers, 1 ten-month instructor, 1 five-month instructor, and 12 full time workers. This budget also includes support for Summer Ministry team members who are paid by the week.)
2. Social Security - amount matched by the employer
3. Employee Benefits - health insurance, workmen's compensation, conference premium for Ministers Voluntary Retirement Association, and registration fee for summer General Conference.
4. Assistance to Churches - funds provided for eight churches on a declining scale of payments each year.
5. Ministerial Association - support for programs and other expenses of the Church of God Ministerial Association.
6. Youth Ministry - funding to help subsidize the cost of the annual R.Y.O.T.
7. Printing and Binding - includes all materials printed by the College/Conference and the binding of permanent materials for the Library.
8. Postage - Shipping charges for the *Progress Journal*, the *Restitution Herald*, *A Journal from the Radical Reformation*, tracts, books, and all correspondence.
9. Purchases - Bookstore - textbooks and other materials, which are purchased for resale.
10. Purchases - Cook material - Creative Teaching Aid Packets and other Cook material that is resold as a part of our Sunday School Curriculum.
11. Royalties - fees paid for the use of the David C. Cook curriculum and copyrighted material used in our publications.
12. Basic Grants - assistance to ABC students in the amount of up to \$110 per semester hour to subsidize their tuition at ABC.
13. Clayton Rebates - during the first three semesters of education, ABC students who attend Clayton College and State University are eligible for a rebate to offset the out of state tuition until they can establish residency.
14. Advertising - Recruitment - includes travel, telephone calls, printing, and postage primarily to promote ABC.
15. Library Periodicals - religious and theological journals and other magazines for the Library collection.
16. Library Books - newly published books are acquired to keep the Library collection up to date.
17. Periodicals, Books, Dues - a small allowance is provided to professional staff to purchase resource material for classes and to participate in professional organizations.
18. Staff Education - professional staff members are encouraged to attend at least one seminar each year to remain current in their field of study.
19. Program Development - the purchase of resources to enhance teaching programs at ABC and for the Lending Library.
20. Travel - includes travel for Board members, advisory committees, special boards and committees, Gospel Teams, Summer Ministries, and staff.
21. Motor Vehicle Expense - license plates, insurance, and maintenance for three vehicles.

22. Office Supplies - paper, printer cartridges, stationary, envelopes, etc.
23. Professional Services - the constitution requires an annual audit.
24. Telephone - basic and long distance service, including the cost of all "800" number calls which are provided toll free to the caller.
25. Insurance - non-plant-liability insurance for employees and directors.
26. Supplies and Expenses - printing supplies, piano tuning, towel and paper products, and other operational expenses.
27. Repairs/Maintenance - non-plant - maintenance agreements and repairs for office and library equipment.
28. Plant Expenses - includes all expenses for buildings and property.
29. Contingency - this budget is being prepared 15 months before the fiscal year begins. This item provides a cushion for adjustments when the fiscal year begins on July 1, 2000.
30. Vehicle Replacement - money is set aside in a restricted account to be available when a vehicle needs to be replaced.

### Anticipated Income

1. Sunday School Materials - includes all sales of Sunday School Curriculum.
2. Books, Tracts - sale of textbooks as well as other materials to the membership and the public.
3. Subscriptions - subscriptions for *The Restitution Herald* are \$13 per year, \$24 for two years, \$33 for three years; *A Journal From the Radical Reformation* is \$24 per year.
4. Tuition - income is based upon projected enrollment of the equivalent of fifteen students at ABC taking an average of 12 credit hours (students are also enrolled for additional hours at Clayton College) and 20 extension students taking an average of 5 semester hours during the year.
5. Housing - rent received from ten apartments on the College Campus.
6. Laundry - income from laundry facilities in apartment building.
7. Late Fees/Rent and Fees - interest income and registration fees from students.
8. ABCDF - transfer of interest income from the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation.
9. Interest - money earned on checking account through the year.
10. Transfers In - funding for Church Planting is supplemented by restricted trust funds.
12. Bequest Distribution - the College/Conference is the recipient of annuity payments on a contract of a deceased member.
13. Transfer from Morgan Fund to subsidize budget.
14. Contributions Needed - to accomplish the goals of Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference for the 2000-2001 fiscal year, contributions of \$391,760 will be needed from churches, conferences, and individual families. This is approximately \$32,650 per month.

In 1998, churches, conferences, and groups gave over \$178,310 to the Goal for Giving. We are thankful for this faithful giving and encourage each member church to designate a portion of its income to assist with the work of the College/Conference.

To close the gap between contributions needed and the amount provided by churches, conferences, and groups, we rely upon faithful giving of individuals and families. Approximately \$213,000 is needed in contributions from individuals and families. In 1998, 552 families contributed an average of \$238 during the year for a total of \$131,552. There is a need for additional support from other member families of nearly \$100,000 to help underwrite the work of the College and Conference and to meet this budget. A gift of \$130 from each Church of God family would totally meet the needs of the College and Conference for the year.



# Cost Centers by Function

Below is the general operating budget for 2000-2001 classified by function.

## ABC:

<i>Instruction</i>	\$95,575	\$22,000	\$73,575
<i>Student Service</i> - admissions, counseling, financial aid administration, registration, student organizations	36,522	22,000	14,522
<i>Student Basic Grants</i>	32,000	34,750	0
<i>Academic Support</i> - library, lending library, audio visual services	21,898	0	21,898
<i>Institutional Support</i> - board, investment, alumni relations, audit, fund raising, printing, public relations, purchasing, telephone, transportation, reception, recruitment, staff training, gospel teams, vehicles	159,642	135,400	24,242
<i>Plant</i> - maintenance, utilities, property insurance	57,715	33,400	24,315
<i>Business</i> - housing, rental property, book- keeping, mailing, sales, computer	36,916	16,750	20,166
<i>Totals for ABC</i>	<u>\$440,268</u>	<u>\$264,300</u>	<u>\$178,718</u>

## Church/Pastor Services:

<i>Youth</i>	\$21,536	0	\$21,536
<i>Christian Education</i>	7,184	0	7,184
<i>Missions Administration</i>	7,324	0	7,324
<i>Outreach</i> - Church Builders, Church Aid, Church Planting, Summer Ministries	77,151	16,900	60,251
<i>Media</i> - Publishing, Radio/TV	114,408	73,100	41,308
<i>Senior Ministry</i>	2,165	0	2,165
<i>Pastor Support</i> - aid to Ministerial Associa- tion, Licensing, Retirement	11,663	0	11,663
<i>Conciliation</i>	2,383	0	2,383
<i>Institutional Support</i> - board, investment, audit, fund raising, printing, public relations, purchasing, telephone, transportation, recep- tion, staff training, vehicles	62,802	45,250	17,552
<i>Plant</i> - maintenance, utilities, property insurance	19,173	0	19,173
<i>Business</i> - bookkeeping, mailing, computer	25,414	0	25,414
<i>Totals for Church/Pastor Services</i>	<u>\$351,203</u>	<u>\$135,250</u>	<u>\$215,953</u>

Grand Totals	\$791,471	\$399,550	\$394,671
--------------	-----------	-----------	-----------

## Report of Baptisms: 2,000 by A.D. 2000

	Jan. 1, 2000	Total
April 1, 1998 - March 31, 1999*	124	1,448
April 1, 1997 - March 31, 1998	141	
April 1, 1996 - March 31, 1997	158	
April 1, 1995 - March 31, 1996	164	
April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995	162	
April 1, 1993 - March 31, 1994	142	
April 1, 1992 - March 31, 1993	164	
April 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992	170	
June 1, 1990 - March 31, 1991	168	
January 1 - May 31, 1990	55	

\* More complete figures are being collected from non-reporting churches.

### PROGRESS JOURNAL

## Calendar of Events

1999	
<b>June 11-13</b>	Minnesota 125th anniversary conference
<b>June 20-25</b>	Midwest Family Camp, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
<b>July 12-15</b>	79th Annual Summer Conference, Henry VIII Hotel, St. Louis, MO
<b>July 25-30</b>	RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN
<b>September 24-26</b>	Cool Spring, VA 100th Anniversary
<b>October 8, 9</b>	Midwest Women's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
<b>October 15, 16</b>	SE Men's Retreat, Marietta Baptist Camp, SC
<b>November 5, 6</b>	Midwest Men's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
2000	
<b>February 16-23</b>	ABC Holy Land Trip
<b>February 21-25</b>	Annual Ministers Conference, ABC campus, Morrow, GA
<b>April 9-14</b>	Christian Workers' Seminar, Holiday Inn, Pigeon Forge, TN
<b>July 16-21</b>	RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN
<b>July 31-August 4</b>	80th Annual Summer Conference, Rockford, IL

## Prayer and Praise June 1999

- 1 **Pray for the Atlanta Bible College students as they make decisions for the future.**
- 2 Pray for believers in the Philippine islands.
- 3 **Praise God for the beauty of His creation.**
- 4 Pray for Pastor Dan and Charlotte Fyfe and their work at Anderson Chapel, Hendersonville, NC.
- 5 **Pray for boldness to share your faith.**
- 6 Pray for John Nelson in his work as Youth pastor at Blessed Hope Bible Church, Rockford, IL.
- 7 **Pray that God might speak to you through the services of your church today.**
- 8 Pray for ABC students and staff who are traveling to the Holy Land this week.
- 9 **Pray for the ministry of your local church.**
- 10 Praise God for those who regularly remember our Conference and College with their prayers and contributions.
- 11 **Praise God for your pastor and his family and their dedication to ministry.**
- 12 Pray for Pastor James and Linda Hill and the work at Royal, AR.
- 13 **Praise God and your family and circle of friends.**
- 14 Pray for Pastor John and Elizabeth Raymond and the work at Blood River, LA.
- 15 **Pray for Pastor Gordon and Barbara Landry and the work at Flagg Center, IL.**
- 16 Pray for those who are listening to the Focus on the Kingdom Radio Program.
- 17 **Pray for Pastor Sydney and Deirdre Kirkpatrick and the work at Pine Grove, MN.**
- 18 Pray for final preparations for the summer General Conference next month.
- 19 **Praise God for a recent answer to prayer.**
- 20 Praise God for your father.
- 21 **Pray for believers in Peru.**
- 22 Pray for pastors who are making changes this year.
- 23 **Praise God for the editors of our Sunday School curriculum and our printed publications.**
- 24 Pray for the Grant family, members of the Valley View Bible Church who are serving in the Middle East.
- 25 **Pray for God's direction in future mission efforts.**
- 26 Pray for God's direction in the preparation for R.Y.O.T. (Youth Congress).
- 27 **Praise God for your church family.**
- 28 Pray for the Summer Ministries teams as they work in churches this summer.
- 29 **Pray for the Board of Directors as they lead the College/Conference.**
- 30 Praise God for the dedication of the College/Conference staff.

# Prayer and Praise

## July 1999

- 1 Pray that God might move the Church of God forward in new areas of ministry.
- 2 Pray that many will hear God's call into full-time Christian service.
- 3 Pray for the soon return of Jesus.
- 4 Praise God for the leadership of your church family.
- 5 Praise God for His great love shown to us by the sacrifice of His Son.
- 6 Praise God for the abundant life you have in Christ.
- 7 Pray for Pastor Dan and Amy Kennedy and the work at Sharpsburg, GA.
- 8 Pray for the brethren in India.
- 9 Praise God for efforts being made to plant new churches.
- 10 Pray for your pastor as he prepares to share God's message tomorrow.
- 11 Pray for Pastor Russell and Joyce Magaw and the work at Eden Valley, MN.
- 12 Pray for those traveling to the summer General Conference today.
- 13 Pray for God's Spirit to be present in the activities of the General Conference this week.
- 14 Pray for a spirit of unity at the Summer Conference.
- 15 Pray for safety for those traveling home from General Conference today.
- 16 Pray for the Badillo family and the work in Mexico.
- 17 Pray for Pastor Michael Mattison and the work at Baton Rouge, LA.
- 18 Pray for workers in Ghana who first had contact with the Church of God through Pastor Oliver Amani.
- 19 Pray for the Bible schools being conducted by the Summer Ministries teams.
- 20 Pray for Pastor Emory Macy and his work in Weiser, ID.
- 21 Pray for someone you know who needs to accept Christ as Savior.
- 22 Pray for Pastor Hollis and Hilda Partlowe and the work at Dixon, IL.
- 23 Pray for those who have enrolled in the Systematic Bible Study Course over the Internet.
- 24 Pray that God will lead many of our young people into ministry at home and abroad.
- 25 Pray for safety for those traveling to RYOT (Youth Congress) today.
- 26 Pray for new students to enroll at Atlanta Bible College this fall.
- 27 Pray for Pastor John and Alice Railton and the work at Timberland, IN.
- 28 Pray for the staff of RYOT and the influence they are having on the young people.
- 29 Pray for Freedom in Christ Ministries and Pastor Stephen and Joyce Bolhaus.
- 30 Pray for the safety for those traveling home from RYOT today.
- 31 Pray for Pastor James and Rebecca Ritch and the work at Lenoir, NC.

### Pre-Summer Conference Activities

Summer Conference attendees are invited to come early to participate in services and activities at churches near St. Louis. Schedule for Sunday, July 11 is as follows:

Morse Mill: Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Farmington: Morning Service 10:00 a.m.

Fredericktown: Sunday School 10:00 a.m.; Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Sandwich lunches will be served at both Farmington and Morse Mill. In the afternoon, several activities are available: A group will be leaving from Farmington at 12:30 p.m. for a walking tour of Elephant Rock State Park and Farmington antique shops. A group will be leaving from Morse Mill Church at 1:00 p.m. to visit the Pevly Flea Market and Wolf Sanctuary.

At 5:00 p.m., everyone is invited to Morse Mill for a barbecue supper followed by a singspiration from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Extra rooms are available at the hotel for Saturday and Sunday nights, July 10, and 11, and Thursday, July 15 for those who arrive early and/or wish to stay an extra day. The flat rate is \$70 for 1 to 6 persons per room.

### Children and Youth Program for Summer Conference

#### Nursery

A free nursery will be provide for children 3 years of age and younger Monday evening 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 – 11:45 a.m.; 1:30 – 3:45 p.m.; 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.; and Thursday from 8:30 – 11:45 a.m. Please check the box on the registration form to schedule this free service.

#### Four years through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Classes will be held Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 – 11:45 a.m.; 1:30 – 3:45 p.m. and Thursday from 8:30 – 11:45 a.m. Activities will include singing, story time, crafts, and playtime.

A Junior Church Program will be offered during the evening services.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade through High School

The youth schedule and activities is as follows: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings:

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. – Class

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. – Break

11:00 – 11:45 a.m. – Class

#### Tuesday Afternoon

1:00 – 6:30 p.m. – Downtown tour via Metrolink (the Arch, Union Station, the Toy Museum, and dinner on the Riverboat McDonalds). The evening meal will be provided but participants will pay their own fee to go up in the Arch.

#### Wednesday Afternoon

1:30 – 5:30 p.m. one or more of the following activities: Walking tour of St. Charles, Bigfoot Museum, Grant's Farm, or local area Service Project.

Young people will participate in other scheduled events when they are not involved in their own special programming.

# Church News

## **Systematic Course Completion**

Kalynda Allen of Hedrick, Indiana has completed the Systematic Theology Bible Study Course.

## **Pastors Needed**

The Church of the Open Bible Pomona, California is seeking a Senior Pastor. Please respond to **charlie@cmhummel.com** or phone **(909) 981-2292** for further info. Base salary 24K plus 25K in benefits.

The Restitution Church of God, Eldorado, Illinois is looking for a pastor. For more information, please contact Jack Wiggins at 618-273-3676 or Carlis Medley at 812-838-6437. Until a pastor is found, if a pastor is traveling in the Eldorado vicinity and would be willing to speak on Sunday, please call one of the numbers above to make arrangements.

Fair Oaks Community Church (in Herndon, Virginia) would like to secure the services of a pastor. We are looking for a pastor who senses God's gifting in the areas of "people skills" and outreach as well as preaching and teaching.

The ability to be open-minded and flexible is important as well. Though our church family is small at this time, we are in the midst of the fast-growing Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. If you believe God may be calling you to pastor in such an urban area, please contact Carolyn Kohn for more information: 7711 Ivymount Terrace, Potomac, MD 20854.

## **Anniversary Celebration**

The Cool Spring Church of God will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, September 24 – 26, 1999. You are invited to join us as we praise God for our past, rejoice in the present, and prepare for the future. For information please contact: Cool Spring Church of God, 3705 Gooney Manor Loop, Browntown, Virginia 22610; Pastor Dale Ramsey, 540-636-4226.

Leslie C. and Nadine LeCrone celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary April 8, 1999. They are lifelong members of the church having been baptized at a very young age. They have 5 sons, 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grand children. They are members of the Jaynes Street Church pastored by Scott Ross. They praise God for allowing them to make this special occasion.

## **Baptisms**

### *Illinois*

East Peoria – Brandon Hartman (3/7/99) by Pastor Darrell Cardwell.

Oregon – Kyle and Jordan Dimmick of Colorado Springs, Co (3/21/99) by Jim Dimmick.

### *Indiana*

South Bend – Mike Moyer (3/28/99) by Pastor John Railton.

### *Iowa*

Oaklawn – Sarah Madoerin and Jacob Madoerin (4/11/99) by Pastor Francis Burnett.

### *Michigan*

Blanchard – Lindsey Moody (3/28/99) by Elder Terry Kunst.

Blanchard – Travis Cordell (3/28/99) by Elder Roger Wood.

Blanchard – Dave Frick (3/28/99) by Pastor Chris Seiders.

### *Missouri*

Farmington – Kim Smith & Meagan Smith (4/11/99) by Pastor Jon T. Welch.

## **Deaths**

### *Michigan*

Grand Rapids – Carolyn (Ratering) Brandt, 64, long-time member, (3/4/99).

### *Ohio*

Bedford – Ellsworth Frederick, 81, long-time member (3/22/99) by Pastor Rex Cain.

### *Indiana*

South Bend – Kenneth Cook, long-time member (4/3/99) by Pastor John Railton.

### *Arkansas*

McGintytown – Byron Johns, 82, long-time member (4/2/99) by Pastor Tom New.

### **Canada**

Fonthill – Grace Elizabeth Anger, 90, long-time member (4/20/99) by Pastor Ed Goit.

## **Marriages**

### *Michigan*

Grand Rapids – Beth Harkema and Adam Swanson (3/6/99) by Pastor Michael Cisler.

## **Directory Changes**

Fonthill, Ontario – Glad Tidings Church

Ruth Johnson, Secretary, 13 Wavel Court, Welland, Ontario L3B 2E6 Ph. 905-735-7927

Donna Payne, Superintendent/YTH LDR, 26 Burkwood Pl., Fonthill, ON, Canada L0S 1E0 Ph. 905-892-3635, e-mail: KPPaperboy@AOL.com

Margo Shute, Assistant SS Superintendent/YTH LDR, 18 N. Haven, Welland, Ontario Canada L3C 1X1, e-mail: maggie@IAW.on.ca

REGISTRATION FORM  
 1999 Annual General Conference  
 St. Louis, MO - July 12-15

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr Mrs Miss First Middle Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Age (if under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Church Name

2. Workshop Preferences

(1:30 p.m.) Tues. \_\_\_\_\_ Wedn. \_\_\_\_\_

(4:00 p.m.) Tues. \_\_\_\_\_ Wedn. \_\_\_\_\_

Adult Preferences (2:45 p.m.)  
 Tues. \_\_\_\_\_ Wedn. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Fees—Number per room \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name(s) of person(s) sharing room

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Babysitting Service FREE  
 Children's names and ages

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Pastor Discount, if applicable \$ \_\_\_\_\_

6. Fees (line 3 minus line 5) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

7. Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

8. BALANCE DUE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

9. I wish to help with special music   
 Early-bird fees apply June 11 or before.

HOW TO REGISTER (use one form per person)

1. Enter the name and address information for yourself and your church. Please include age if under 18.
2. Indicate your workshop and adult preferences, by number, from the chart found on page 8 of the JOURNAL.
3. Conference Fees: (all inclusive)  
**Housing** is in air-conditioned rooms with private bath. Please indicate the number of occupants per room and *name* the persons sharing your room. If the names of those in the room are not listed, we cannot guarantee the desired arrangements.  
**Meals** will begin with the Monday evening meal and end with lunch on Thursday.

	Early-Bird*	Regular
6 to a suite, per person	\$160	\$180
5 to a suite, per person	170	190
4 to a room, per person	180	200
3 to a room, per person	200	220
2 to a room, per person	245	265
1 to a room, per person	360	380
children under 2, no charge		
children aged 3 to 10 (assuming at least two others in a room)	\$130	\$150
commuters (with meals but no lodging)	\$117	\$137
commuters (with no meals and no lodging)	\$20	\$25

\* Registration postmarked by June 11, 1999.

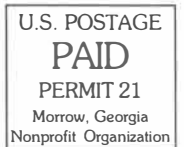
4. Free babysitting service. Service will be provided for children two years and under Monday from 7:00-8:30; Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30-11:45, 1:30-3:45, and 7:00-8:30; and Thursday 8:30-11:45 a.m. Please list children's name(s) and age(s).
5. Active and retired pastors and their families (children living at home) may subtract 10% of the amount on line 3. Put this amount on line 5.
6. Fees due (line 3 minus line 5).
7. Please indicate the amount sent with registration. *Note: A non-refundable deposit of \$25 per person is required.*
8. Balance due (if any).
9. Please check this box if you wish to help with special music.

Send your check with completed registration form to: Church of God General Conference, P.O. Box 100,000, Morrow, GA 30260.

Any special meal or housing requests need to accompany your application.

Atlanta Bible College  
 Church of God General Conference  
 P.O. Box 100,000  
 Morrow, GA 30260

Address Correction Requested



# Church of God Progress Journal

Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference

July, August, 1999

Volume 41, Number 5

## Praying the Church into the 21st Century

The following is a true story shared by a missionary who was home on furlough.

While serving at a small field hospital in Africa, every two weeks I travel by bicycle through the jungle to a nearby city for supplies. This was a journey of two days and required camping overnight at the halfway point.

On one of these journeys, I arrived in the city where I planned to collect money from a bank, purchase medicines and supplies, and then begin my two-day journey back to the field hospital.

Upon arrival in the city, I observed two men fighting, one of whom had been seriously injured. I treated him for his injuries and at the same time witnessed to him of the Lord Jesus Christ. I then traveled two days, camping overnight, and arrived home without incident.

Two weeks later I repeated my journey. Upon arriving in the city, I was approached by the young man I had treated. He told me that he had known I carried money and medicine. He said, "Some friends and I followed you into the jungle, knowing you would camp overnight. We planned to kill you and take your money and drugs. But just as we were about to move into your camp, we saw that you were surrounded by 26 armed guards." At this I laughed and said that I was certainly all alone out in that jungle campsite. The young man pressed the point, however, and said, "No sir, I was not the only person to see the guards. My five friends also saw them, and we all counted them. It was because of those guards that we were afraid and left you alone."

At this point in the sermon, one of the men in the congregation jumped to his feet and interrupted the missionary and asked if he could tell him the exact day that this happened. The missionary told the congregation the date, and the man who interrupted told him this story:

"On the night of your incident in Africa, it was morning here and I was preparing to go play golf. I was about to putt when I felt the urge to pray for you. In fact, the urging of the Lord was so strong, I called men in this church to meet with me here in the sanctuary to pray for you. Would all of those men who met with me on that day stand up?"

The men who had met together to pray that day stood up. The missionary wasn't concerned with who they were — he was too busy counting how many men he saw. There were 26.

This story is an incredible example of how the spirit of God moves in mysterious ways. If you ever hear such prodding, go along with it.

The membership of the Church of God has been participating in a special prayer effort during this year entitled "Praying the Church into the 21st Century." As we approach a new millenium, now is an auspicious time to pray for God's direction and blessing upon our work.

Many are praying that our membership will seek God with all of their hearts (see 2 Chronicles 15:1-15), experience the power of God in their lives, and participate in a revival that would cause us to minister to the lost with new zeal. Many of our people are experiencing God at work in their lives and in their church in new ways. At the summer conference, a number of testimonies were shared by participants of how God is being faithful in blessing the ministry of individuals and churches.

There is strength in numbers and there is power when we are united in prayer. We invite you to join us in being a prayer partner as we "Pray the Church into the 21st Century."

---

# Summary of Summer Conference

The 79<sup>th</sup> annual Summer General Conference was held at the Henry VIII Hotel in St. Louis, MO. One hundred fifty-seven were preregistered for the conference and approximately forty-five others attended evening services or other events. The theme was "The Body of Christ" based on Ephesians 4.

On the Sunday prior to Conference the Missouri churches hosted special services, sightseeing, and meals.

Charles Bottolfs of the Happy Woods Church, Hammond, Louisiana and Pastor Greg Demmitt of the Lakeshore Church in Tempe, Arizona were elected to four-year terms on the Board of Directors to replace Pastors David Cheatwood and Dale Swartz whose terms expired. Plaques of appreciation were presented to retiring board members at the business session.

Myra Huffer Montgomery was elected to a four-year term on the Christian Education Advisory Committee replacing Christy Ross who chose not to be renominated.

The Board of Directors elected officers as follows: Chairman, Joe James; Vice-Chairman, Charles Bottolfs; Secretary, Greg Demmitt; Treasurer, Robert Huddleston.

The Board of Directors appointed Keith Williams to a three-year term on the Investment Fund Board; Michele Millard was reappointed to a six-year term on the Christian Conciliation Board; and Mardy Lawrence was reappointed to a three-year term on the Lord's Harvest International Mission Sending Agency Board.

During Conference the Board of Trustees of the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation met. They elected officers as follows: President, Charles Bottolfs; Vice President, Wanda Gerullis. The Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Directors (Greg Demmitt and Robert Huddleston) automatically serve in the same capacity for the Foundation Board.

During the business sessions, reports were received from two task forces appointed following last year's General Conference. Charles Bottolfs reported on the Public Relations Task Force. Members of the task force will be meeting with the Board of Directors at their fall meeting to discuss a mission statement and core values. Larry Johnson reported on behalf of the Organizational Task Force. A motion was adopted by the delegates to continue the work of the Organizational Task Force since by delegate action it had been appointed for only one year. This task force will serve as advisors to the Board of Directors in implementing improvement in the organizational structure of the college and conference.

A recommendation regarding the employment of a Church Planting Assistant was tabled in light of ongoing discussions about the organizational structure of our organization and the development of strategic initiatives.

A budget for the 2000-2001 fiscal year was adopted by the delegates. It calls for contributions of \$402,160.

Delegates expressed their appreciation to Recruitment Coordinator, Andy Cisneros and Youth Coordinator, Jim Graham who are leaving the college/conference staff.

The Ministerial Association elected Dale Swartz to serve on the Ministerial Recognition Board, replacing Pastor John Railton who resigned.

A little over \$2,000 was received in offerings during Conference for Church/Planting/Evangelism. Delegates at the 1998 Conference voted to launch a campaign to raise \$200,000 over the next five years to assist with our church planting and outreach efforts. Four hundred families and/or groups are being sought to contribute \$100 per year for five years in order to reach this goal.

This issue of the PROGRESS JOURNAL contains additional information about the summer General Conference.

---

# President's Message to Delegates

by David Krogh

Thank you for coming to this 79<sup>th</sup> annual Conference of the Church of God. As delegates you are important decision-makers as you select individuals to serve on the Board of Directors and Advisory committees; as you act on recommendations, and as you adopt a budget. You also play a significant role as you return home to represent Atlanta Bible College and the Conference to your church and state conference. The vote and voice of each one of you are important. Some elections have been decided by one or two votes. Suggestions offered, or issues raised by only one individual have resulted in new directions, new ministries, and new services for our organization. Each one of you is vital to the work of this Conference. All ideas and suggestions offered are seriously considered by our Board and staff. Who you are and the work you do make a difference.

The theme of this year's conference is also vital as we focus upon our individual role and our corporate role as the body of Christ. I have been challenged by the speakers who have called our attention to the importance of unity and commitment to truth and to love. As the body of Christ we have been called to make a difference in our world. We have been called to be faithful as we face challenges in ministry.

I want to assure you that I believe that the Church of God is strategically positioned to have a greater impact on our world in the time remaining before the second coming of Christ. I believe the best days of the Church of God are in the future.

I would like to share with you 6 reasons why I believe we are in a position to advance our work significantly in the days ahead:

1. The accreditation of Atlanta Bible College during the past year. This was a giant step forward. Accreditation has been a long-term goal. Last fall, an unbiased outside organization reviewed our programs, our staff, our facilities, our financial resources, and our services, and they gave us their unqualified stamp of approval. The Accrediting Commission International has accredited over 160 schools and colleges. ACI was very complimentary of what we are doing as a college. The membership of the Church of God is to be commended for making education a priority in our organization. And our membership is to be commended for providing the financial resources that make it possible for the college to operate. Our staff is to be commended for their dedicated service and for their commitment to making ABC

an excellent educational institution. We are glad to welcome new members to our staff: Steve Taylor, Technology Coordinator; Jon Cheatwood, Youth/Recruitment Coordinator; Jill Taylor, Secretary to the President. I would like all the staff members of Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference to stand. (Round of applause.)

2. The expansion of the ministry of the Church of God into new cultures and racial groups. According to Rev. 5:9, there will be people in the kingdom from every tribe, language, people group, and nation. Many of us have been praying for opportunities to reach out to other groups. Over the past few years, the base of the Church of God has been substantially broadened. There has been outreach to the black community, and just recently doors have opened to Americans of Korean descent. Last fall, a Korean immigrant, Steve An, enrolled in Atlanta Bible College. He is a mid-career person who is a dedicated Christian and student of the Word. He has been an avid learner and clearly his heart yearns for ministry. Steve has a powerful testimony of how he became a Christian and the power of God in answering prayer in his life.

Recently Steve asked about the possibility of starting a Korean Church as a daughter congregation of our New Friends Bible Church that meets in the college chapel. As we explored with him his desire to start a church, he said that it was clear to him that the message that we are teaching is Scriptural. He said, "You can substantiate your teachings directly from the Bible." He said it was clear to him that the church that he was attending could not support their beliefs from Scripture, and his desire is to establish a Korean church that teaches the truth of Scripture.

This new group was started several weeks ago and we are renting the college chapel to this new group for a Sunday afternoon service, as well as an early morning prayer service Tuesday through Saturday mornings, as well as a mid-week Bible study. And in August they will start a Saturday program for young people. A medical doctor is a part of the new group and he wants to offer a free medical clinic for a few hours on Saturday for people in our community.

We also rejoice in contacts overseas: Malawi, India, Mexico, Ghana, the Philippines, and from many African countries because of the Focus on the Kingdom radio ministry over shortwave. We also rejoice in contacts made through our Theological Conference in Austria, Hungary, and Haiti.



We give God praise for opening doors so that the message of truth and salvation can be presented by Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God to other races and people groups who have every right to hear the message of Bible truth.

3. The Focus on the Kingdom radio program. This radio program is fulfilling Matthew 24:14, The Gospel of the Kingdom is being preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations. Through shortwave and the Internet, the message of the Kingdom is available all over the face of the earth. We rejoice in the many responses we have had to this program, and we also rejoice in the baptisms that Pastor John Railton mentioned in his testimony the other night.

Several Church of God families generously provided the financial resources to get this project launched. Since then, many churches and State/District Conferences have provided additional financial support to expand the broadcasting to 11 stations, plus the Internet and shortwave.

I am also pleased to report that an anonymous donor recently contributed \$750,000 to Restoration Fellowship to expand the Focus on the Kingdom radio ministry. We praise God for the advance of this work, and the potential to reach multitudes all over the world with the message of truth and salvation.

4. We also rejoice in the number of baptisms throughout the Church of God. In the early part of this decade, delegates to the annual Conference adopted a recommendation proposed by the Ministerial Association that we establish a goal of having 2,000 baptisms by the year 2,000. We currently have documented about 1,500 baptisms in this decade. However, we have only been able to secure baptism reports from 2/3 of our churches, even after repeated requests. Some of the non-reporting churches are small and may not have had many baptisms during the past 10 years, but some of our larger churches have also not reported or at least not every year. We have been reluctant to estimate the number of baptisms in these non-reporting churches, so we have reported only actual numbers. Furthermore, we have not included in this count, baptisms that have taken place overseas. There have been a significant number of baptisms in Malawi, perhaps in the hundreds, but we have not received names and firm numbers from there, so these numbers have not been included. But it seems obvious that when baptisms from this fall are included, along with the baptisms from non-reporting churches and from non-reporting mission fields, we will have exceeded the goal of 2,000 baptisms by

the year 2000. For the size of our association of churches and the number of our churches, I must say that this has been tremendous progress in making disciples in obedience to the Great Commission.

5. I believe that we are strategically positioned to move ahead in a significant way because of the financial blessings that God has bestowed upon us. During this decade, the net worth of the College and Conference almost doubled. The assets of the ABC Development Foundation, ABC Scholarship Endowment Funds, and Annuity Funds, have increased remarkably. These assets have not only strengthened the base of our organization, but also enabled new projects to be funded. Also, the assets of the Ministers' Retirement Association have increased to over one million dollars which is providing retirement benefits to pastors and widows of pastors. God has blessed us far beyond our expectations.

6. The final reason why I am optimistic about the future of our work is our prayer effort entitled "Praying the Church into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. A year ago last May our pastors encouraged us to move ahead with this prayer effort, and during 1999, a number of our people have indicated that they are standing together in this united prayer effort. To me, this is a fantastic way that we can be unified in our work. There is strength in numbers and there is tremendous power when people unite in prayer. This is evident in a true story told by a missionary who was home on furlough (see page one of this JOURNAL).

Is this really the way prayer works? I choose to believe so. This story prompts me to be more alert to begin praying when I feel prompted to pray; it encourages me to pray more; and to pray with others. I don't believe we can even begin to fathom what God will do in the Church of God during the rest of 1999 and into the 21<sup>st</sup> century when we join in united prayer.

Yes, there are many indications that we are positioned to do greater ministry — the recommendations you passed last year; our new staff members; our work on distance learning. We have every reason to be optimistic as we face the future. We can expect more baptisms, more victories, and more financial blessings. God is at work in the world, and it is evident that God is at work in our midst. When we join Him where He is working, we cannot fail. He is not willing for any to perish but that all should come to repentance. Thank you for working together in obedience to the Great Commission.

---

# Minutes of General Conference Delegate Business Sessions

## Tuesday, July 13

1. The Tuesday delegate business session was called to order by Chairman Joe James at 10:25 a.m.
2. Pastor Scott Ross opened the session with prayer.
3. Chairman James officially welcomed the delegates to the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Conference. The Missouri Conference and Conference President Dale Brown were thanked for helping to host us in their home state. Steve Taylor and Jon Cheatwood were welcomed as new members of the college/conference staff.
4. Chairman James delivered the Chairman's message to the delegates. He noted various steps the Board of Directors has taken over the past year to implement recommendations adopted by the delegates during the 1998 General Conference Delegate Business Sessions. Chairman James urged the delegates to confidently face the future of the Church of God, expecting to be used by God to meet the opportunities that lie ahead of us.
5. Michelle Turner, Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, reported 32 pastors, 57 delegates, and 7 members of the Board of Directors present, for a total of 96 delegates at this business session.
6. Vice-president Kent Ross gave a report about Atlanta Bible College, especially noting the presence of several new students who had no previous connection with the Church of God and the challenging and interesting task of exposing these students to doctrinal teachings new to them.
7. The Annual Report printed in the *May Progress Journal* was considered.
8. The Special Reports printed in the *May Progress Journal* were considered.
9. Gary Burnham made comments and fielded questions on the financial reports printed in the delegate packet.
10. The floor was opened for nominations for two four-year terms on the Board of Directors. Pastor Jeff Fletcher nominated Charles Bottolfs. Pastor Scott Ross nominated Pastor Greg Demmitt. Marge Overmyer nominated Pastor Gary Turner. Lynn Berry nominated Keith Williams. Pastor Jim Ritch moved and Ruby McCaslin seconded a motion to close nominations. The motion passed. Nominees will be available in the lobby of the hotel this afternoon for anyone who would like to talk with them prior to the election. The election will be held during the Wednesday delegate business session.
11. The floor was opened for nominations for a four-year term on the Christian Education Advisory Committee. Pastor Scott Ross nominated Pastor Mark Tschaenn. Pastor Dale Swartz nominated Myra Montgomery. Charles Bottolfs moved and Pastor David Cheatwood seconded a motion to close nominations. The motion passed. The election will be held during the Wednesday delegate business session.
12. Charles Bottolfs, Public Relations Task Force Chairperson, gave a brief report about the continuing work of this Task Force. He introduced the other members of the committee: Dale Brown, Frank Johnson, Joyce Knapp and David Scheiding.
13. Pastor Dale Swartz moved and Pastor Don Ward seconded that we give a public thank you to the Public Relations Task Force for their work. The motion passed.
14. Anthony Buzzard gave a report on the status of the *Focus on the Kingdom* Radio Ministry, as well as the printing of the book, *The Doctrine of the Trinity: Christianity's Self-Inflicted Wound*.
15. Pastor Russell Magaw moved and Pastor Dave Riley seconded adoption of the Recommendation, "we recommend that the Church of God General Conference employ a church-planting assistant as soon as a candidate and funding are secured." Following discussion, Bill Lawrence moved and Sarah Ross seconded a motion to table the motion on the floor. The motion to table passed.
16. The Tuesday delegate business session was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.
17. Pastor Ed Goit closed the session in prayer.

## Wednesday, July 14, 1999

1. The Wednesday delegate business session was called to order by Chairman Joe James at 10:20 a.m.
2. Pastor Jeff Fletcher opened the session with prayer.
3. The minutes of the Tuesday, July 13 delegate business session were read. No corrections were noted.
4. Michelle Turner, Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, reported 33 pastors, 58 delegates, and 7 members of the Board of Directors present, for a total of 98 delegates at this business session.
5. Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference President, David Krogh, delivered the President's message. President Krogh shared six reasons why he is confident the best days of the Church of God lie ahead: Atlanta Bible College has received accreditation and has a dedicated staff, our ministry has expanded into new cultures, the Focus on the Kingdom radio program can literally be heard around the world, we will exceed our goal of 2000 baptisms in the decade of the 1990's, God has granted tremendous financial blessings to the college/conference, and we have placed a special emphasis on prayer during the past year. Further, President Krogh urged the delegates to continue to place a special emphasis on prayer.
6. Following several ballots Charles Bottolfs and Pastor Greg Demmitt were each elected to serve a four-year term on the Board of Directors.
7. Those running the children's ministry this week were given an appreciative round of applause for their excellent work.
8. Appreciation plaques were presented to retiring Board members Pastor David Cheatwood and Pastor Dale Swartz.
9. Pastor Wally Winner informed the delegates the Southeast Conference is continuing the process of reprinting the six-part Berean Bible Study series. Books #1 and #2 are currently available.
10. President Krogh reviewed the various items enclosed in the delegate packets.
11. Gayle Guthrie reviewed the specifics of a resource materials notebook available through the Christian Education Advisory Committee. She also emphasized the important work of editing curriculum for doctrinal truth and the importance of the doctrinal distinctives material provided for

one quarter every three years. Teams of volunteers will work together to help further develop the doctrinal distinctives curriculum. Volunteers are requested to work on these teams. Volunteers are also needed for various writing projects the Committee is working on.

12. Myra Montgomery was elected to serve a four-year term on the Christian Education Advisory Committee.

13. Judy Myers announced the ACMC Conference will be held in Atlanta July 29-31. The General Conference is underwriting tuition costs and providing housing in the college apartment building.

14. Judy Myers updated the delegates on the progress of Tracy Zhykhovich's residency paperwork. Tracy will be in the United States this summer and available to visit in some of our churches.

15. Larry Johnson, Chairperson of the Organizational Task Force, reported on the work of this task force. Other task force members are Norman Chandler, Donna Deane, Tim Jones and Jim Ring. The task force's written report outlines seven specific recommendations. Since time allowed for only limited delegate input, the delegates were asked to read over the committee's report and be prepared for further discussion during the Thursday delegate business session.

16. Pastor Seth Ross moved and Ruby McCaslin seconded the Organizational Task Force be kept in place in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors. The motion passed.

17. President Krogh reviewed and fielded questions on the proposed 2000-2001 fiscal year budget. Delegate action on the budget will be taken during the Thursday delegate business session.

18. Dale Brown moved and Diane Huddlestun seconded that \$4000 be added to the 1999-2000 fiscal year budget to help underwrite a retreat for the Priscillas.

19. The Wednesday delegate business session was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

20. Pastor Kent Ross closed the session in prayer.

## Thursday, July 15, 1999

1. Prior to the delegate business session being called to order, Pastor Scott Ross, Moderator of the Ministerial Association Leadership Team, led the installation of the 1999-2000 Board of Directors.

2. The Thursday delegate business session was called to order by Chairman Joe James at 10:30 a.m.
3. Pastor Dale Swartz opened the session with prayer.
4. The minutes of the Wednesday, July 14 delegate business session were read. No corrections were noted.
5. Chairman James noted that new appointments to the Atlanta Bible College Development Foundation Board will be announced in print at a later time.
6. Chairman James, on behalf of the Board of Directors, shared the Board's response to the report of the Organizational Task Force. The Board is grateful for the work of this task force, and is supportive of the recommendations the task force has made. Core values and strategic initiatives will be major agenda items at the Fall Board Meeting. Other recommendations of the task force will be worked on during the next year, with a progress report being brought to the delegates at next year's delegate business session.
7. Larry Johnson, Organizational Task Force Chairperson, fielded additional delegate questions and comments about the task force's report. A major question raised was the place of the Ministerial Association in the sample organizational structure shown in the task force's report.
8. Pastor Francis Burnett moved and Pastor David Cheatwood seconded a motion to remove from the table the Recommendation, "we recommend that the Church of God General Conference employ a church-planting assistant as soon as a candidate and funding are secured." The motion to remove from the table passed. Following considerable discussion both for and against this recommendation, Pastor Greg Demmitt moved and Pastor Ray Hall seconded to table this recommendation until the new Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference organizational structure is in place. The motion to table the recommendation passed.
9. Joyce Knapp reminded the delegates that a church can be planted by lay people planting a Sunday School which later develops into a church. It was noted that both the Garden Park and Troy View churches were begun in this fashion.
10. Charles Webster spoke about the need for a pastor to come to plant a church in the Ocala/Orlando, Florida area.
11. Bill Lawrence praised Merry Peterson's effort to fully complete the Atlanta Bible College program at both ABC and Clayton College and State University. He noted she is very well prepared to enter ministry in the Church of God.
12. Andy Cisneros urged each delegate to identify a person with great ministry potential and to bring them to General Conference next summer. Chairman James thanked Andy for his excellent recent recruitment work for Atlanta Bible College.
13. Pastor Jack Hearp urged the Board of Directors to strengthen the programs and increase the resources allocated for Senior Ministries in the Church of God. His recommendation specifically asks the Board to help fund attendance at The Age Wave Conference for two people from each Church of God.
14. President Krogh recognized the 10 years of service of Youth Ministry Coordinator, Pastor Jim Graham, who is leaving the college/conference staff this year. The delegates showed their appreciation with a round of applause.
15. Howard Shute moved and Charles Bottolfs seconded adoption of the proposed 2000-2001 fiscal year budget printed in the delegate packet, with the adjustment of adding \$10,000 to the ABCDF interest income line item. Motion passed.
16. Pastor Scott Ross, Ministerial Association Leadership Team Moderator, reported Pastor Dale Swartz was elected by the Ministerial Association to serve on the Ministerial Recognition Board.
17. The delegates gave a round of applause to the Missouri churches for their work in hosting this year's General Conference.
18. Michelle Turner, Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, reported 33 pastors, 58 delegates, and 7 members of the Board of Directors present, for a total of 98 delegates at this business session.
19. The minutes of the Thursday, July 15 delegate business session were read. Jerold Brewer moved and Pastor Jeff Fletcher seconded a motion to approve the minutes of all three sessions of the 1999 General Conference Business Session. The motion passed.
20. Pastor Ed Goit moved and Pastor Mark Tschaenn seconded a motion to adjourn the 1999 General Conference Business Session. Motion passed. The Thursday delegate business session was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.
21. Pastor Joe Martin closed the session in prayer.

Gary Burnham, Recording Secretary

---

# Chairman's Message to Delegates

by Joe E. James

It is indeed a privilege to welcome each of you to this 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Church of God. It is obvious that we have assembled here today in St. Louis an excited and enthusiastic group of delegates, pastors, staff and other members. The Missouri Conference has proven to be an excellent host of this General Conference. Please join me in expressing our appreciation to President Dale Brown and the Missouri Conference by giving a round of applause.

The theme of this 1999 General Conference is "The Body of Christ" with a focus on Ephesians 4. We are a unified body of believers bound together by a common faith based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, the apostles and prophets. Paul succinctly states those binding elements in Ephesians 4:4-6. Many times in conference we express a diversity of opinions on a number of issues but our common faith based on Biblical truth and a spirit of love supersede our differences.

The Board of Directors and staff have been responsive to recent delegate actions. As a result of the Institutional Long-Range Study led by Donna Deane and Kent Ross and with grass roots input and following 1998 delegation action, the Board along with President David Krogh and Vice-President Kent Ross filled two key positions. Steve Taylor has been hired to work in the area of media and technology to develop and improve information, public relations, advising, promotional materials and other communication efforts of our College and Conference. Jon Cheatwood has recently been hired to coordinate and lead our college recruitment and youth ministry programs.

The 1998 Annual Conference directed the Board of Directors to appoint two task forces. A Public Relations Task Force chaired by Charles Bottolfs was appointed by the Board and worked very diligently over the past several months. An Organizational Structure Task Force chaired by Larry Johnson was appointed and they too worked very hard in their assigned task. Both of these task forces will be sharing and reporting to you in this conference. We are very grateful to these groups for their hard work and dedicated efforts.

During the past year the Board of Directors and staff have intensified efforts to improve Atlanta Bible College, college recruitment and promotion of our college programs. Fifty-six percent of our resources are channeled into Atlanta Bible College and its programs. At the same time we have given special attention to needs of our local congrega-

tions. College enrollment and the success of college programs are directly related to the strength and viability of our local congregations. Atlanta Bible College is now accredited by an international accrediting organization. Of the 44% of our resources assigned to the General Conference area much of that supports such programs as local church aid, publications and other materials for churches and other supportive efforts to serve local ministries. Funds were approved by the Board to make it possible for local church and state/regional conference youth leaders to attend the 1999 Youth Specialties Convention in the fall. Funds were also approved to support attendance of local Missions Coordinators or leaders at a training conference, "Touching The Heart of God", sponsored by APMC and to be held July 29 - 31, 1999 in Atlanta. We encourage local congregations and conferences to take advantage of these opportunities. We would also encourage you to let us know of other helpful programs the conference could sponsor to benefit local congregations.

We continue to be extremely appreciative of the contributions of many individuals who volunteer countless hours to the work of our College and General Conference. We are grateful to our churches, the regional and state conferences and members who provide the financial support for Atlanta Bible College and the Church of God General Conference.

We are fast approaching the dawn of a new millennium. There are many challenges and opportunities that face us in the year 2000 and beyond:

1. We remain few in number as a fellowship. Let us resolve that we will not become discouraged and defeated by this fact. On many occasions God has used a few dedicated people to accomplish great things. Let us pray that He will use us in a mighty way to accomplish His divine purpose and plan for these last days before Jesus returns. Let us further pray that we will open our lives to be used by God in this way.
2. We have very few individuals entering pastoral ministry. We should all make this a matter of prayer. Kent, David, Jon, Steve, Joe, and Anthony will work hard at recruitment. All of us need to visualize ourselves as seeking God's leadership. Let us also continue to pray for and uplift our pastors and local church leaders who dedicate their lives in service to God and local members.

# Prayer and Praise

## August 1999

3. There are some very exciting things happening in the Church of God. Many local church programs are producing fruit. Atlanta Bible College is attracting students from the local area — a number with no previous connection with the Church of God. Anthony Buzzard's radio work is growing tremendously. The Theological Conference is recognized as a conference of high quality Biblical study and research. Increasing numbers are attending RYOT and Christian Workers' Seminar. Several foreign mission fields are active. All of these endeavors bring us joy and yet we must challenge ourselves to refrain from becoming complacent. We must energize ourselves to continue to plant and water and pray that God will provide the increase.

4. From time to time we turn too much of our attention and energy inward due to internal conflicts. Let us all pray for peace and unity in our local congregations. The Church of God is basically a loving, caring and forgiving body. We are so close to each other that situations of conflict sometimes just tear us apart. Let us all resolve to follow the teachings of Jesus as recorded in Matt. 18 to get through those trying times.

5. We live in an evil world. Many once peaceful communities are threatened by hostile and criminal deeds. The world about us needs Jesus — a saving relationship with the Son of God. The Church of God has a message of salvation through Jesus Christ, a message of hope, and a message of the coming peaceful Kingdom of God on this planet. This message is needed by the world. This provides a great challenge and many opportunities.

We can be great servants of God and vessels to be used by Him as we prayerfully work together in unity and look to Almighty God for strength and leadership. The late Bro. Clyde Randall used to say that the best days of the Church of God are ahead. Let us pray for that as we go through this Conference and return to the vineyards of our local church areas. Let us trust in God to do great and marvelous things as we submit to His leading in all of our endeavors. May the year ahead bring great blessings to each of you and the local congregations you represent.

- 1 **Praise God for the beauty of His creation.**
- 2 **Pray for spiritual renewal for yourself and your church.**
- 3 **Praise God for the faithful ministry of the ABC/General Conference staff.**
- 4 **Pray for Joe and Rebekah Martin, Jim Mattison, Jim Cramer, Paul Madonia, and Travis Hamilton as they work in Malawi, East Africa.**
- 5 **Pray for God to direct in securing a person to fill the Spiritual Life/Evangelism position at the General Conference.**
- 6 **Pray for Connie Scott and her ministry at Pine Grove, Minnesota.**
- 7 **Praise God for His faithfulness in your life.**
- 8 **Pray for your church family as you join together in worship today.**
- 9 **Pray for the Board of Directors as they lead the ministries of the College/Conference.**
- 10 **Pray for your pastor and his family today.**
- 11 **Pray for the brethren and leaders in Peru.**
- 12 **Pray for students who are making plans to attend Atlanta Bible College this fall.**
- 13 **Pray for the Focus on the Kingdom radio ministry.**
- 14 **Pray for Jon Cheatwood as he begins his work as Youth/Recruitment Coordinator for ABC and the General Conference.**
- 15 **Praise God for the faith of the brethren in the Philippines.**
- 16 **Praise God for the challenges He sends your way.**
- 17 **Pray for the Grant family, members of Valley View Church, who are serving in missions ministry.**
- 18 **Pray for a personal hunger to know God.**
- 19 **Pray for individuals who feel led by God to pursue mission careers.**
- 20 **Pray for ABC students and staff as they participate in orientation for the fall semester.**
- 21 **Praise God for His love and faithfulness.**
- 22 **Pray for the leadership of your local church.**
- 23 **Pray for ABC classes as they begin today.**
- 24 **Pray for Steven Taylor as he works for ABC/General Conference in the area of Distance Learning and Technology.**
- 25 **Pray for Associate Pastor Andy and Kristy Cisneros as they work with the Guthrie Grove Church in SC.**
- 26 **Praise God for Pastor Cecil Smead's many years of service for the Lord.**
- 27 **Praise God for your heritage of faith.**
- 28 **Pray that God might speak through you to someone who is hurting.**
- 29 **Pray for someone you know who needs to make Christ Lord.**
- 30 **Pray for an opportunity to share your faith this week.**
- 31 **Pray for Pastor Steve and Pat Zimbelman and their work at Family Bible Fellowship, Rockford, Illinois.**

# Prayer and Praise

## September 1999

- 1 Pray for the youth of your local church and the General Conference.
- 2 Pray for Pastor John and Gayle Guthrie and their work at East Oregon, Illinois.
- 3 Pray for Pastor Dale and Cheryl Swartz as they begin their next pastorate at Litchfield, MN.
- 4 Praise God for Tracy Savage Zhykhovich and her ministry to Russia.
- 5 Pray that God might be praised through your worship today.
- 6 Praise God for the faithful ministry of Pastor Emory Macy in Weiser, ID.
- 7 Pray for healing for someone you know who is in need.
- 8 Pray for Pastor David and Karen Swartz and their work at Golden Rule and Columbia Station, Ohio.
- 9 Praise God for the gift of His Son.
- 10 Praise God for His daily mercies.
- 11 Pray for the outreach of Beder Ucanay in Lima, Peru.
- 12 Praise God for the beauty of each season.
- 13 Pray for Pastor Jack Hearp as he serves as Senior Ministries Coordinator for the General Conference.
- 14 Pray for spiritual renewal and growth for ABC students and staff.
- 15 Praise God for the prayer partners and financial supporters of the Conference and College.
- 16 Pray for your church family and for spiritual growth.
- 17 Pray for Sergey and Lucya as they continue in Bible Study in Russia.
- 18 Pray for your own personal desire to love God more.
- 19 Pray for Atlanta Bible College on this Booster Sunday that is being observed by many of our churches today.
- 20 Pray for your family and your friends.
- 21 Pray for Pastor Mary and Ray Vadnais and their work in Champion, MI.
- 22 Pray for all the faithful pastors and workers in Malawi.
- 23 Pray for those who are seeking God's will for their lives.
- 24 Pray for church workers in India.
- 25 Pray for the Cool Spring, VA church as they celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this weekend.
- 26 Praise God for His Word which provides guidance for your life.
- 27 Pray that you will let your light shine for Christ.
- 28 Praise God for new believers in your church family.
- 29 Pray for the faith to stand firm when temptation comes.
- 30 Pray for the soon return of Christ and that you will remain faithful.

## College/Conference Update

### Students Honored

At the conclusion of the spring semester, a special honors banquet and program were held to recognize students for their accomplishments during the school year. Merry Peterson was granted a Bachelor of Theology degree. Timmy Gould received a Diploma in Church Leadership and Brian Bormes and Erin Reichert received Foundation Year Certificates. Pastor John Hearp was the guest speaker.

Merry Peterson will begin an internship at the Jaynes St. Church of God in Omaha, NE in September under the supervision of Pastors Scott and Christy Ross.

We are thankful for these students who are preparing themselves for lay or professional ministry.

### ABC/Conference Personnel Changes

Pastor Steve Taylor, who had been employed as a part-time Technology Coordinator for the Conference and College, has begun full-time employment in Atlanta. In addition to his duties producing promotional videos, programs for cablecast and a video magazine to be distributed to all our churches, he has also been placed in charge of the distance learning program of Atlanta Bible College. He will be assisting instructors in placing ABC courses on the internet.

Jon Cheatwood has been employed to fill a full-time position at the College/Conference as Youth and Recruitment Coordinator. Jon has a passion and vision for youth ministry and the work of ABC.

Jim Graham has served as Youth Coordinator in a part-time capacity for the past 9 years. Wednesday, July 28 was declared to be "Jim Graham Day" at the summer RYOT. He was honored throughout the day by young people and staff and a special reception was held following the evening service.

Jill Taylor has been employed to serve as secretary to President David Krogh.

### Malawi Trip

A team left Atlanta on August 2 for a short-term mission trip to Malawi. Team members are: Jim Mattison, Joe and Rebecca Martin, Jim Cramer, Paul Madonia, and Travis Hamilton. The purpose of the trip is to encourage and teach the brethren in the churches in Malawi and Mozambique.

### Residency Papers

We are pleased that Tracy Savage Zhykhovich has been granted residency in Russia for two more years. Tracy and Stepan will be visiting the United States this summer.

### Successful Theological Conference in May

A very inspiring Theological Conference was held on the campus of Atlanta Bible College. Guest speakers were Werner Bartl of Austria, Clifford Forward of Canada, Ferenc Jeszenszky of Hungary, Robert Hach and Juan Baixeras of Florida, and Anthony Buzzard of ABC. We are grateful for contacts that are being made around the world with those who are truth seekers.

### ABC Fall Semester

The Atlanta Bible College fall semester will begin with orientation on August 19. Classes will begin on August 23. A number of new students have already completed the registration process. Two special open houses were held on the campus of the college for community students in June and July.

**Financial Update**

ABC/General Conference completed the fiscal year on June with a small surplus. To reach the goal for giving of \$72,000 for the new year, contributions of \$31,000 will be required each month. In addition to contributions from churches and conferences that are members of the General Conference, giving is needed from individuals and families to meet the budget. The faithful support of many churches and individuals in the past has been greatly appreciated.

**Report of Baptisms: 2,000 by A.D. 2000**

		Jan. 1, 2000
		Total
April 1, 1998 - March 31, 1999*	139	1,563
April 1, 1997 - March 31, 1998	141	
April 1, 1996 - March 31, 1997	158	
April 1, 1995 - March 31, 1996	164	
April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995	162	
April 1, 1993 - March 31, 1994	142	
April 1, 1992 - March 31, 1993	164	
April 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992	170	
June 1, 1990 - March 31, 1991	168	
January 1 - May 31, 1990	55	

\* More complete figures are being collected from non-reporting churches.

**Calendar of Events**

<b>September 24-26</b>	Cool Spring, VA 100th Anniversary
<b>October 8, 9</b>	Midwest Women's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
<b>October 15, 16</b>	SE Men's Retreat, Marietta Baptist Camp, SC
<b>November 5, 6</b>	Midwest Men's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
<b>2000</b>	
<b>February 7-11</b>	Ministerial Conference
<b>February 16-23</b>	ABC Holy Land Trip
<b>April 9-14</b>	Christian Workers' Seminar, Holiday Inn, Pigeon Forge, TN
<b>July 16-21</b>	RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN
<b>July 31-August 4</b>	80th Annual Summer Conference, Rockford, IL

*Wisconsin*

Beloit – Jack and Shirley Gundry; and Larry and Mary Bredeson (6/6/99) by Pastor Jason Turner.

**Deaths**

*Arkansas*

McGintytown – Era McGinty (6/25/99) and Ricky Freeman, 15, drowning victim (7/2/99) by Pastor Tom New.

*Illinois*

Ripley – Herman Dale “Bunky” Lewis, 65, formerly of Ripley (4/8/99) by Richard L. Young.

*Indiana*

South Bend – Ken Cook, 44, former Church of God pastor by Pastor John Railton.

South Bend – Lottie Pickerl, 108, charter member by Pastor John Railton.

*Michigan*

Blanchard – Beatrice Simpson, 68, member (5/8/99) by Pastor Chris Seiders.

*Ohio*

Bedford – Marcella Richter, 99, faithful long-time member (4/12/99); Charles Robertson, 79, long-time member (6/21/99) by Pastor Rex Cain.

North Hills – Laurel Macy, 85, long-time member (5/30/99) by Pastor Seth Ross and Russell Dickerson.

*South Carolina*

Pelzer – Vera Smith (3/27/99) by Pastor Richard Smith.

Pelzer – Lydia Smith (4/16/99) by Pastor Alan Cain.

**Directory Addition**

*Indiana*

North Salem Church – Lucille Bradley, Miss Chair, 19009 15<sup>th</sup> Rd, Culver, IN 46511

**New E-mail Addresses**

Country Chapel Church of God: cchap@geetel.net  
 Pastor Dale Ramsey: dcbest@rma.edu  
 Pastor Warren Sorenson: wsvbc@clubnet.net

**New Church Websites**

Church of the Open Bible, Bedford, OH:  
[www.iol13.com/openbible](http://www.iol13.com/openbible) (that's an “L” before 13)

Pennellwood Church, Wyoming, MI:  
<http://www.angelfire.com/mi2/pennellwoodcog>



# Church News

## **Completion of Systematic Bible Study Course**

Conger Street Church in Waterloo, IA; Linda, Dan and Erin McGowan; Kris and Karla Beenken; Leanne Clark.

## **Anniversary Celebration**

Leslie C. and Nadine LeCrone celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary April 8<sup>th</sup>. They are lifelong members of the church having been baptized at a very young age. They have 5 sons, 12 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. They are members of the Jaynes Street Church pastored by Scott Ross. They praise God for allowing them to celebrate this special occasion.

## **Marriages**

### *Arkansas*

McGintytown – Wendy Williamson and Tommy Johnston (6/19/99) by Pastor Tom New.

### *Georgia*

Cornerstone – Gerald Briggs and Carrie Krogh (6/26/99) by Pastor David Krogh and Pastor Dan Kennedy.

New Friends – Zachary Ross and Zuaquis Alford (5/29/99) by Pastor Kent Ross.

### *Indiana*

Monticello – Kalynda Allen and Andrew Hamilton (5/15/99) by Pastor John A. Railton.

## **Baptisms**

### *Arkansas*

McGintytown – Libby Bauder (3/14/99); Carrie Freeman (6/27/99); Cory Haynes (6/27/99); and Jake LaFerney (7/18/99) by Pastor Tom New.

### *Georgia*

Cornerstone – JoAnn Sims (5/16/99) and Mitchell Raper (6/20/99) by Pastor David Riley.

Morrow – Jim Davis of Pueblo West, CO (5/2/99) by David Krogh.

### *Indiana*

Timberland – Karen Fischer and Andrea Herrick (5/23/99) by Pastor John A. Railton and Anthony Buzzard. Both Karen and Andrea were baptized as a result of the Focus on the Kingdom radio program.

### *Iowa*

Waterloo – Leanne Clark (6/19/99) by Pastor Chuck Currier with Dan McGowan assisting.

### *Michigan*

Garden Park – Terry Surprenant (2/21/99); Judy Goldman and Clara Meyer (4/25/99); Jessica Danielson, Nicole Danielson, Lindsey Kessel (5/2/99) by Pastor Ray Hall.

Blanchard – Beatrice Simpson (5/6/99) by Pastor Chris Seiders.

### *Minnesota*

Eden Valley – Rebecca and Stacey Thielen (4/23/99) by Pastor Billie Kennedy. Kurtis Lieser (4/23/99); Alice Hickman (6/26/99); Jim Ford and Wesley Schoenherr (6/27/99) by Pastor Russ Magaw.

### *Missouri*

Farmington – Shannon Smith and Randi Deason (5/30/99) by Pastor Jon T. Welch.

### *Ohio*

Brush Creek – Trevor Moore (4/4/99) by Pastor Dale Swartz.

North Hills – Reese Turton (4/25/99) by Pastor Seth Ross.

### *South Carolina*

Pelzer – Earl & Kathy McDermott (4/4/99) by Pastor Alan Cain.

---

Atlanta Bible College  
Church of God General Conference  
P.O. Box 100,000  
Morrow, GA 30260

Address Correction Requested

U.S. POSTAGE <b>PAID</b> PERMIT 21 Morrow, Georgia Nonprofit Organization
---

# Church of God Progress Journal

Atlanta Bible College/Church of God General Conference

September, October, 1999

Volume 41, Number 6

## Atlanta Bible College's New School Year Begins

Eighteen new students joined the Atlanta Bible College family for this new school year that will take us into a new millennium. Students and staff gathered on the campus August 21 and 22 for registration and orientation. In part, the activities included a picnic supper for students, staff and their families followed by a worship service. Second year ABC student, Steve An and ABC President, David Krogh spoke.

At the beginning of each school year, all students are given a Bible Content Test to measure their grasp of the Bible. It is rewarding both to the students and the staff to see test scores increase each year that a student attends the college.

Also during orientation, a Personality Profile was completed by the students to assist them in understanding their personalities and how to relate more effectively to others.

Classes offered during the fall term are: Marriage and Family, Ensemble, Christian Education with emphasis on Youth Ministry, Pastoral Preaching, Personal Finance, Old Testament Survey 1 and 2, Church History 1, Systematic Theology 1, and a study of Galatians, Ephesians, and Colossians. In addition to day classes, seven classes are being offered in the evenings to serve students who are unavailable for classes during the day.

Instructors this semester are Anthony Buzzard, Jon Cheatwood, Paul Cook, David Krogh, Joe Martin, and Kent Ross.

Chapel services are held each Wednesday morning. Students and staff participate in planning and leading worship. A variety of speakers and programs are presented throughout the school year. The first chapel this semester was a report by Joe and Rebekah Martin and Jim Cramer who were members of the team that visited Malawi, East Africa in early August.

A number of churches throughout our conference observed Booster Sunday on September 19. Students, staff and Board members visited several churches on that weekend. We are thankful for the faithful prayer and financial support of so many members for the work of the college. This support is enabling the college to continue to prepare leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> century during this school year. We have many churches that are looking for pastors and so the need for more workers is very apparent. The membership is invited to join us in praying for workers as Jesus instructed in Matthew 9:37, 38: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field."



# Malawi and Mozambique Report

Jim Cramer, Travis Hamilton, Paul Madonia, Joe and Rebekah Martin, and Jim Mattison traveled to Malawi and Mozambique from August 2-16. Although among the poorest of the African nations, the people of Malawi and Mozambique are happy and contented with the good creation God has given them. All kinds of vegetation are everywhere for their use. The soil is fertile and they grow almost all their food. The gospel of the Kingdom and the love of Jesus mean everything to these people. It thrills them when we tell them God has invited them to be kings and queens in His coming righteous Kingdom on earth.

The people are emotional by nature. As they worship by singing praises, they sway back and forth to the rhythm of drums and many times clap their hands in a very orderly way. The main focus of the team was to share the great Bible teachings with the pastors and their wives so they could share them with the people. There were many others who attended also. When we shared with them the wonderful words of God they listened intently and took notes on tablets we had given them. We had three services a day, each lasting two to three hours. We shared the main teachings of the Bible: the great doctrines, the living of the Christian life, the necessity of living by God's laws. Joe Martin preached a marvelous sermon on the love of God. Jim Cramer, Travis Hamilton, and Paul Madonia all helped in the preaching and were well received by the people.

In every service there is a time of prayer for all, with each one uttering his own prayer to God, all at the same time. The whole service of worship is conducted in order and good taste. They certainly are not ashamed of the Lord Jesus and His wonderful Kingdom message. Their songs of worship all honor and praise God, Jesus, and God's coming Kingdom. Many of their songs reflect their love for Messiah Jesus; "Jesus, I Am Here for You," "I Am A Soldier for Jesus," "No One Can Be the Same As Jesus," "We Can Search the World Over and Never Find One Like Him," "When You Are in Trouble You Need to Come to Jesus," "Please Come to Him," and dozens more. Many times they make up a song about something important, such as the conquering of death by Jesus.

They like to share the joy of their faith with others. One day about fifteen women were all singing and swaying in a moving circle. I asked Margaret afterwards what they were doing. She said, "We are happy. That is why we dance and sing."

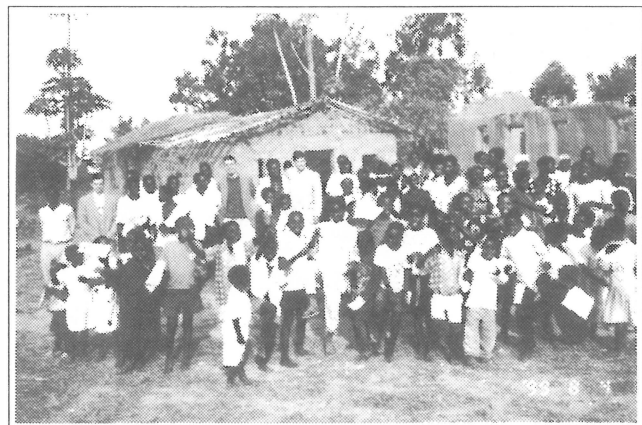
Rebekah Martin taught the women cleanliness and nutrition and answered some personal questions they had.

The closing day of the second conference that we held, nineteen people were baptized by Pastor Rabson Namaona in the large deep Ruo River (there are no crocodiles in this river).

With God's help we accomplished our mission. He was glorified, Jesus was lifted up, and God's word was preached. Our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Africa is a very close one. They have developed confidence in us, and we have come to respect them highly and have learned much from them.

Please pray with us for this work. These are all Abrahamic Faith people, who obviously know Jesus' favorite message (the Kingdom of God) in- and-out and love it. This is a large work. These African brothers and sisters need our encouragement and love. Their lives are very hard. Their faith means so much to them. Jesus is so real to them. The pastors work hard and are converting many, helping to fulfill Matthew 24:14. May God continue to bless and keep them all.

— Jim Mattison



## Haiti Report

Claire and I visited Haiti August 5-9. This island, on the west of the Dominican Republic, was a new part of the world for us. We had the opportunity to speak to 20 pastors representing about 1,200 folk, plus about 100 members, many of whom traveled many miles from the outlying churches, some in the mountains, to Port au Prince. I got to teach for many hours and was translated, although I used my French a great deal one- to-one and at the guesthouse and the church. The conditions in Haiti were not nearly as grueling as in Malawi. We actually slept in a guesthouse founded for missionaries by a Mennonite couple some years ago. Twenty-five dollars per night got us beds and two good meals. There was electricity but no air conditioning. It was very hot and humid.

During the visit I traveled in the back of a truck to the church everyday. They had power there and some camcorders and electronic machines which were used during the Sunday services. Obviously it is hard to tell exactly who is getting and understanding all that is said. But I would say Lesly Bertrand, who visited ABC last May for the theological conference, is a good man who understands the Truth well. He was dismissed from the Mennonites (having been trained in their Bible college) in 1996 when he learned the *unity of God from our book on The Doctrine of the Trinity*. In one of his messages he strongly presented the sleep of the dead to the people! He has a great love for the Kingdom message.

Claire went one day with some ladies who were visiting from Minnesota to a British run institution of 23 children who are mentally challenged. She saw a beautiful part of the island. There are many US and Canadian workers doing "good works" there. Haiti is very close to the US (two hours from Miami), and yet is very typical of the "third world."

We will continue to provide written materials to these Abrahamic faith people in Haiti.

—Anthony Buzzard

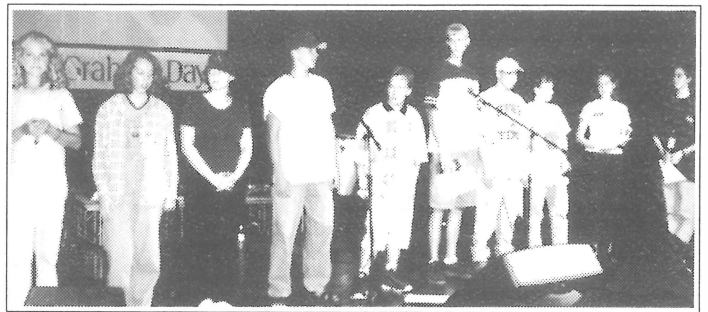
## College/Conference Update

This year's RYOT (Radical Youth Overcoming Today) had a record attendance with 218 students, 34 youth workers, 39 staff and 27 guests for a total of 318.

Jim Graham, who has served as Youth Coordinator for the past nine years, was honored for his years of service to the youth ministry of the Church of God. As a result of the long-range planning study, a full-time position of Youth/ABC Recruitment Coordinator was created. Jon Cheatwood moved to Atlanta in early August to fill this position.

Each year at RYOT, a Bible content test is given to high school juniors. The winner of the competition is awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Atlanta Bible College. Congratulations to Alex Millard for winning the scholarship.

We also congratulate all of the young people who participated in the National Quiz Competition. Thirty-two young people on ten teams competed. The Arkansas team won the championship playoffs. Amanda Hammer, Jenny Kinchen, Lynn Smith, Jave Colburn, and Jay Laurent were designated as all-star quizzers based upon their outstanding performance in the total competition. They were each granted a \$1,000 scholarship to Atlanta Bible College.



### New Church Started

Steve An, a student at Atlanta Bible College, has started a Korean Church. The group is renting space in the ABC administration building. The group holds services in the college chapel on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings. Early morning prayer sessions are

(continued on page four)

---

# College/Conference Update

(continued from page 3)

held from 6:00-7:00 Tuesday through Saturday mornings. A school for young people is held on Saturday mornings.

ABC students are also making plans to have regular Sunday evening services in the college chapel. There will be a special effort to attract unchurched people.

## Book Published

The book *The Doctrine of the Trinity: Christianity's Self-Inflicted Wound* by Anthony Buzzard and Charles Hunting is now available in any bookstore under the ISBN #1-57309-309-2, or directly from the publisher at 800-462-6420. This edition of the book contains 365 pages with full indexes and is available for \$24.95. We are glad that this book can now be more widely distributed through normal bookstore channels.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Theological Conference

The next Theological Conference will be held on the campus of Atlanta Bible College February 11-13 at the end of the annual Minister's Conference. Part of the program this year will be a discussion on the subject of creation versus evolution. Marian Hiller, a good friend of the college who has attended several Theological Conferences, and Charles Faxton a local scientist and believer will debate this issue. Other speakers are being secured.

## Annual Booster Campaign

Each year, Atlanta Bible College encourages prayer and financial support for its ongoing ministry. September 19 was observed as Booster Sunday in many congregations. A follow-up mailing will be made to those who have not yet become ABC boosters. As we prepare workers for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, your prayer and financial support is needed. We also encourage you to pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth additional workers to prepare for service and to meet the leadership needs of our churches. We currently have a number of churches that are seeking pastoral leadership. It is obvious that the fields are ready for harvest but the laborers are few today just as they were in Jesus' day (Matthew 9:37, 38). We need the help of many individuals throughout the Church of God who will encourage young people and mid-career people to consider preparation for ministry.

## Visit to the United States

Tracy Savage Zhykhovich and her husband, Stepan, visited the United States during August and September to raise support for outreach in Russia. Thanks to those who have committed prayer and financial support for this effort during the coming year.

## Hymnal Survey

The supply of our hymnal, *Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs*, is being depleted. The Board of Directors is seeking input on whether to reprint the hymnal as is, or to try to produce a new hymnal. A workshop was held at General Conference to discuss this issue and valuable input was received. A survey has been mailed to Church of God pastors in an effort to receive additional input from pastors, church musicians, and others interested in this project. We would be glad to receive comments regarding this project.

## ABC/Conference Personnel Changes

We are pleased to welcome Jessica Taylor to our staff as part-time receptionist. She is also taking classes at Atlanta Bible College.

After faithfully serving for eight years as Supervisor of the Maintenance Department, Glyn Craig is retiring. He and his wife Nancy moved to Atlanta in 1991 specifically to serve the College and Conference. We are grateful for his work.

We are glad to welcome Heidi Jones who will replace Glyn as Maintenance Supervisor.

Michelle Turner, who has served as Assistant to the Controller and Supervisor of the Mailing Department, will be moving to Arkansas. We are thankful for Michelle's years of service to the College and Conference. We are pleased to welcome Marcy Cly, a member of the New Friends Church and an ABC student, to fill this position.

## Financial Update

Contributions for the first two months of the current fiscal year are several thousand dollars less than the Goals for Giving adopted by the delegates. In addition to contributions from churches and conferences, giving is needed from individuals and families to meet the budget. Thanks for keeping this need in your thoughts and prayers.

# Church News

(continued from page 8)

*Guthrie Grove* – Willie Pearl Gaillard (8/12/98); Esti Holt (10/14/98); Hannon Durham (2/17/99); Bill White (5/15/99); Bonnie Martin (6/23/99); by Pastor Wally Winner.

## Marriages

Georgia

*Cornerstone* – Cindy Williams and Rob Hargis (7/9/99) by Pastor David Riley.

Illinois

*Oregon* – Rachel Rowe and Nathan Laurent (7/10/99) by Pastor Michael Hoffman.

Indiana

*Timberland* – Nathan Kizer and Tawn Freel (8/21/99) by Pastor John Railton.

Minnesota

*Pine Grove* – Melissa Kirkpatrick and Kenneth Shull (6/19/99) by Pastors Vivian E. Kirkpatrick II and Sydney Kirkpatrick.

South Carolina

*Guthrie Grove* – Marc Naumoff and Anita Partain (6/6/98); Jared Spratt and Ashley Harris (6/13/98); George Martin and Amy Bowen (6/13/98) by Pastor Wally Winner.

## Thanks

Thank you for the notes, cards, e-mails, and words of encouragement we received at the death of my father, Dorman B. Cheatwood. It is great to be supported by the church at large. — Pastor Dave Cheatwood



Malawi

# Prayer and Praise

## October 1999

- 1 Pray for Pastor Richard and Jan Alcumbrack and the Southlawn Church in Wyoming, MI.
- 2 Praise God for the promise of a new heaven and a new earth in His coming kingdom.
- 3 Pray for a personal hunger to know God and Jesus better.
- 4 Pray for the Restitution Church in Eldorado, IL.
- 5 Praise God for your church family and the strength that you receive through it.
- 6 Pray for Pastor George Kugler and the Cross Timbers, MO Church.
- 7 Pray for the Board of Directors as they meet today, tomorrow, and Saturday in Atlanta.
- 8 Pray for Pastor Dale and Cheryl Swartz as they begin their pastorate at the Litchfield, MN Church.
- 9 Praise God for retired Pastor Billie Kennedy and his wife Irene.
- 10 Pray for Community Bible Fellowship in Culver, Indiana.
- 11 Pray for Pastor Steve and Pat Zimbelman in their new pastorate at Family Bible Fellowship, Rockford, IL.
- 12 Pray for a church planting vision for Church of God members.
- 13 Pray for the Burr Oak, IN Church.
- 14 Praise God for new contacts who are seeking the truth around the world.
- 15 Pray for Beder Ucanay as he works in Lima, Peru.
- 16 Pray for the Fort Valley, VA Church and their search for a new pastor.
- 17 Pray for the work that is being done in India to proclaim God's truth.
- 18 Pray for retired Pastor Jim Mattison and his wife Martha.
- 19 Pray for your pastor and his leadership.
- 20 Pray for Pastor Jack and Louise Hearp and the Chapel Hill Church in Urbana, OH.
- 21 Praise God for those who have supported Atlanta Bible College through the Booster Campaign.
- 22 Ask God to help you love Him and His Son more.
- 23 Pray for Pastor Steve Taylor and his work as Technology Coordinator for the College/Conference.
- 24 Pray for retired Pastor Linford Moore.
- 25 Pray for the Hedrick, IN Church and Pastor Joe and Karla Astolfi.
- 26 Pray for Pastor Dennis and Rachel Baldwin and the Grace Fellowship Church in Front Royal, VA.
- 27 Pray for Steve and Pam Grant in their ministry in the Middle East.
- 28 Pray for Pastor Tim and Shelly Spickler and their work with Winnebago New Life youth.
- 29 Pray for Pastor Chuck and Gloria Currier and the Waterloo, IA Church.
- 30 Praise God for His constant care.
- 31 Pray for 2,000 baptisms by the year 2000.

# Prayer and Praise

## November 1999

- 1 Pray for the St. Cloud, MN Church.
- 2 Pray for the Fair Oaks Church in VA.
- 3 Pray for the Badillo family in Labor Vieja, Mexico.
- 4 Praise God for men and women who are studying at Atlanta Bible College for Christian Service.
- 5 Pray for those attending the Midwest Men's Retreat at Camp Mack this weekend.
- 6 Pray for Daniel Smead in his duties as Technical Director of the publishing department of the General Conference.
- 7 Pray for Pastor Kirby and Bonnie Davis and the Wenatchee, WA Church.
- 8 Pray for Gayle Guthrie as she serves as coordinator of the Christian education department of the General Conference.
- 9 Praise God for His holiness and truthfulness.
- 10 Pray for Judy Myers and the work of the Lord's Harvest International Mission Board.
- 11 Pray for a spirit of unity throughout the Church of God.
- 12 Pray for Pastor Gary and Glenda Turner and New Life Bible Church in Winnebago, IL.
- 13 Pray for Pastor Wade Tierney and the Morse Mill, MO Church.
- 14 Pray for the Ministerial Recognition Board (formerly License Board) as they encourage our pastors.
- 15 Pray for an opportunity to share Christ with someone this week.
- 16 Praise God for the peace of Jerusalem.
- 17 Pray for Pastor Paul Moore and the work of the Gatesville, TX Church of God.
- 18 Pray for the boldness you need to share Christ with an unbelieving friend.
- 19 Pray for Jon Cheatwood in his new position of Youth /Recruitment Coordinator for the College/Conference.
- 20 Pray for the outreach efforts of your local congregation.
- 21 Praise God for His daily blessings of shelter, food, family and friends.
- 22 Pray for Pastor Jim and Charleen Graham and the Valley View Church in AZ.
- 23 Pray for an individual you know who does not have hope of eternal life.
- 24 Pray for the Fredericktown, MO Church.
- 25 Pray for the ministries of Ralph and Iona Childs in OH.
- 26 Pray for the churches within your state or regional conference.
- 27 Thank God for His goodness to you.
- 28 Praise God for many baptisms in our churches this fall.
- 29 Praise God for the leadership of your local congregation.
- 30 Pray for new contacts through the distribution of literature.

### Report of Baptisms: 2,000 by A.D. 2000

April 1, 1999 - August 31, 1999*	49	Jan. 1, 2000
April 1, 1998 - March 31, 1999*	156	Total
April 1, 1997 - March 31, 1998	158	1,788
April 1, 1996 - March 31, 1997	194	
April 1, 1995 - March 31, 1996	173	
April 1, 1994 - March 31, 1995	193	
April 1, 1993 - March 31, 1994	149	
April 1, 1992 - March 31, 1993	202	
April 1, 1991 - March 31, 1992	196	
June 1, 1990 - March 31, 1991	180	
January 1 - May 31, 1990	138	

\* More complete figures are being collected from non-reporting churches.

### Calendar of Events

<b>September 24-26</b>	Cool Spring, VA 100th Anniversary
<b>October 8, 9</b>	Midwest Women's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
<b>October 15, 16</b>	SE Men's Retreat, Marietta Baptist Camp, SC
<b>November 5, 6</b>	Midwest Men's Retreat, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
<b>2000</b>	
<b>February 7-11</b>	Ministerial Conference
<b>February 11-13</b>	Theological Conference, ABC, Morrow, GA
<b>February 16-23</b>	ABC Holy Land Trip
<b>March 4-6</b>	College Invitational, ABC, Morrow, GA
<b>April 9-14</b>	Christian Workers' Seminar, Holiday Inn, Pigeon Forge, TN
<b>July 16-21</b>	RYOT, Taylor University, Upland, IN
<b>July 31-August 3</b>	80th Annual Summer Conference, Cliffbreakers Convention Center, Rockford, IL

# Church Builder's League

## What Is It?

The Church Builder's League is an association of individuals, churches, and groups that contribute \$25 or more per appeal twice a year to help start and expand churches.

## How Are Funds Used?

Church Builder's assistance is used primarily for the following projects:

1. Start up and operating expenses for new churches.
2. Groups buying or constructing new buildings which have not owned a building previously.
3. Groups which are meeting in a building of their own that is not specifically suitable for worshipping, or buying or constructing church buildings.
4. Groups relocating to a more desirable site.
5. Groups purchasing land for a new building.

## Current Active Membership

Currently there are approximately 597 active, participating members in the Church Builder's League. They contribute an average of \$14,000 to each appeal.

## Our Goal for the Future

Delegates at the 1998 Summer General Conference approved a recommendation to secure 1,000 active members of the Church Builder's League by the year 2000.

## An Invitation to You

You are invited to join this valuable League. Only two appeals are issued each year: one in the spring and one in the fall. Suggested contributions are \$25 per appeal. Your assistance is greatly needed.

## How to Become a Member

1. Call 1-800-347-4261 and tell us you would like to become a member of the league.
2. Fill out the coupon below and send it to: Church Builder's League, P.O. Box 100,000, Morrow, GA 30260.



The Beloit New Life Church of God in Wisconsin received assistance from Church Builder's Appeal #82 this spring. Pictured is their new building.

6. Groups which have outgrown their present facilities and are enlarging, buying, rebuilding, or exchanging.

## Church Builder Appeal Results

Since the inception of the program in 1957, 82 appeals have been issued. Over 3/4 of a million dollars has been contributed and invested in churches over the past forty-two years.

## Church Builder's League Membership Form

The growth and development of the Church of God is important to me. To help to do my part I will participate as a member of the Church Builder's League. Contributions of \$25 are suggested for each appeal (two per year).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



# Church News

## **Completion of Systematic Theology Course**

From Blessed Hope Church of God in Rockford, IL; completion of Systematic Bible Study Course by Greg Osmond.

## **Baptisms**

### Colorado

*Pueblo West* – Elizabeth Davis, Thomas and Mildred Steinger, and Daniel Wantuck (8/30/99) by Elder Jim David.

### Georgia

*Cornerstone* – Paul, Patti, Katie, and Karie Vandyke (8/8/99); Donna and James Martens (8/22/99); Ashley Taylor (9/12/99) by Pastor David Riley.

### Illinois

*Eldorado* – Jo Ann Rutledge (8/29/99) by Pastor Leon Driskill.

*Oregon* – Nicole Hall and Bethany Hall (8/1/99); Lillian Andrew (8/8/99); Kimberly Hall (8/22/99) by Pastor Michael Hoffman.

Malawi – 19 individuals (8/12/99) by Pastor Rabson Namaona.

### Minnesota

*Pine Grove* – Kenneth Shull (10/11/98) by Pastor Sydney Kirkpatrick.

### Missouri

*Morse Mill* – Alicia Dunn (7/11/99) by Pastor Wade Tierney.

### Ohio

*Pleasant Hill* – Amanda Stine, Justine Bradley, and Jennifer Batner (7/11/99) by Pastor Scott Deane.

### South Carolina

*Bethel* – Greg Hunsinger, Annette Baldwin, Ciara Barton, Jessica Allison, Brittany Barton, Michelle Bryant, Kelly Garrison, Jesse Garrison (6/20/99) by Pastor Alan Cain.

*Guthrie Grove* – Jennifer Rector (10/25/98); Ali Harris (4/4/99); Sharon Durham and Kim Perry (4/19/99) by Pastor Wally Winner.

## **Deaths**

### Arizona

*Lakeshore* – Pat Tempel, 60, (8/14/99) by Pastor Greg Demmitt.

### Arkansas

*Hot Springs* – Robert Randolph, 72, (7/16/99) by Roy Humphreys.

### Canada

*Glad Tidings* – Doris Fletcher, 91, long-time faithful member (7/17/99) by Pastor Ed Goit.

### Georgia

*Cornerstone* – Olivia Grace Owens, 15 months (7/30/99) by Pastor David Krogh.

### Minnesota

*Eden Valley* – Elmo Gaspar, 80, long-time leader and faithful member of Eden Valley Church and former member of ABC/General Conference Board of Directors (8/27/99), by Pastor Russell Magaw.

### South Carolina

*Bethel* – Joie Burgess (7/12/99) by Pastors Richard Smith and Alan Cain.

(continued on page five)

Atlanta Bible College  
Church of God General Conference  
P.O. Box 100,000  
Morrow, GA 30260

Address Correction Requested

U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT 21  
Morrow, Georgia  
Nonprofit Organization